The English Carol Book

COLLECTED AND EDITED BY

MARTIN SHAW

WORDS EDITED BY

PERCY DEARMER, D. D.

Wm. A. Rennie,
16, Kelso Place,
Dundee.
1.12.54.

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PREFACE.

IT is a remarkable thing that the Victorian era—which produced, in the ordinary way of business, a book with such beautiful and appropriate wood-cuts as those contained in a popular volume of Carols now lying before me—should have produced no musician willing to arrange the tunes for choral use in a manner corresponding to the sturdy peasant-note which is so characteristic of them; no musician, indeed, who could even perceive that a folk-tune is a different thing from a sentimental part-song like "Sweet and Low."

This was typical of the taste of the 'seventies, when churchgoers could apparently fix their minds on the highest things of all, and at the same time cheerfully submit to whatever banality in the shape of chant, hymn, anthem, or service, might be produced by those who were supposed to guard the traditions of ecclesiastical song. It would be pleasant to add that we have changed all that. But to do so might, I am afraid, be saying too much.

There seem, however, indications that a change in popular taste is at hand. Much discontent undoubtedly exists, and the founding of the Church Music Society, the Folk-Song Society, and the Summer School of Church Music, and the appearance of the English Hymnal, are welcome signs of a new era.

It is with the hope, then, that the time is ripe for an attempt to be made to present our national Carols in a manly and fitting way that the present collection is offered to the public.

The present volume contains the well-known English traditional Carols and tunes, arranged for choral use, together with a few which appear for the first time.

Our thanks are due to the Rev. G. R. Woodward and the publishers of the Cowley Carol Book (an excellent collection on different lines from the present book, in that it is a collection of the best foreign Christmas Noels and songs), for permission to use two of his translations; to Miss Nan Knowles, for clerical help; to the Rev. Gabriel Gillett, for his new translation of "Angelus ad Virginem"; to Mr. Geoffrey Dearmer, for his translation of the "Legend"; to Mr. Selwyn Image, for his contributions of original Carols, specially written for the present book; to Dr. Vaughan Williams, for his setting of the Salutation Carol; to Mr. Mackmurdo, for permission to use the late Lionel Johnson's Carol, "Hominum Laudes"; to Mr. Frank Kidson, for communicating the words and tune of No. 23; and to my brother Geoffrey, for his two new Carol tunes and for his settings of old Carol tunes, and for his valuable advice and help throughout Except where otherwise stated, the arrangements of the tunes are by me.

MARTIN SHAW.

It is intended that there should be two or three different strands in this collection. The main strand is the traditional English Carol, the religious folk-song of our people; but there are also a few of the most beautiful Carols of other countries, translated into English, and a few also by modern writers, since it is a good thing to keep an art alive, and to add a little that is new to the old, if the new be worthy, as it seems to me to be in this case. Some modern writers have written fine Carols, notably Mr. Selwyn Image; and some have written tunes which have the true ring. Moreover, in some cases new work is necessary because the original tune of an old Carol has been lost, and in some there are no English words to a tune. It will also be noticed that a certain number of the old Carols in this volume are well known, and others hardly known at all. Both kinds should be welcome; and all, I think, are beautiful.

The Folk Carols have often been preserved in more than one version; and doubtless, if the words of every company of wassailers had been taken down, they would never have been quite the same. There is thus no authentic "text"; and here and there we have put in a missing word which is needed for the singing, and was indeed probably sung. But otherwise we have not interfered with the originals, except occasionally to omit a verse. They are often rough and quaint, and do not always fit into our present ideas of grammar; but they are true and sweet, with the proper quality of real songs (which are like the strings of an instrument ready for their music), and with a certain tender and mellow humanity. Like the ancient buildings round which they were sung, these Folk Carols would only be spoilt by attempts at reconstruction or embellishment.

PERCY DEARMER.

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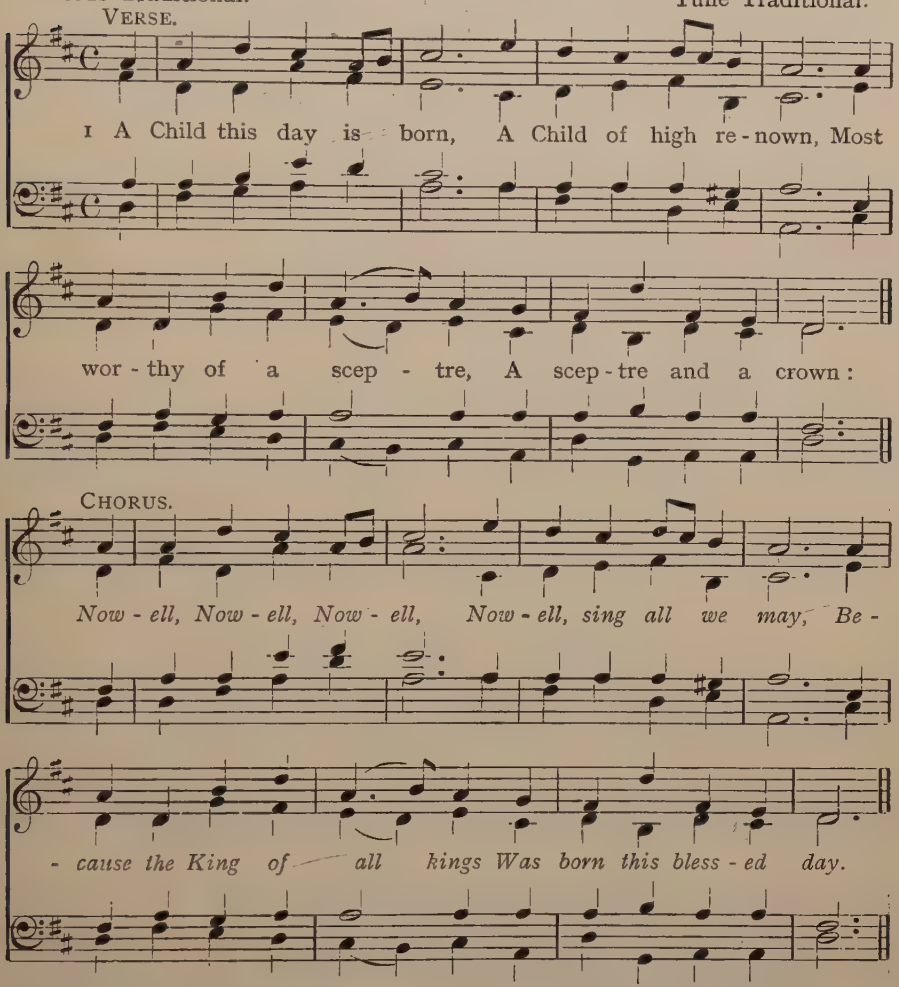
THE ENGLISH CAROL BOOK

1 A Child this Day is Born

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


VERSE.
1 A Child this day is born, A Child of high re-nown, Most
wor-thy of a scep-tre, A scep-tre and a crown:
CHORUS.
Now-ell, Now-ell, Now-ell, Now-ell, sing all we may, Be-
-cause the King of all kings Was born this bless-ed day.

A CHILD this day is born,
A Child of high renown,
Most worthy of a sceptre,
A sceptre and a crown:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Nowell, sing all we may,
Because the King of all kings
Was born this blessed day.

2 These tidings shepherds heard,
In field watching their fold,
Were by an Angel unto them
That night revealed and told:

3 To whom the Angel spoke,
Saying, "Be not afraid;
Be glad, poor silly shepherds—
Why are you so dismayed?

4 "For lo! I bring you tidings
Of gladness and of mirth,
Which cometh to all people by
This holy Infant's birth":

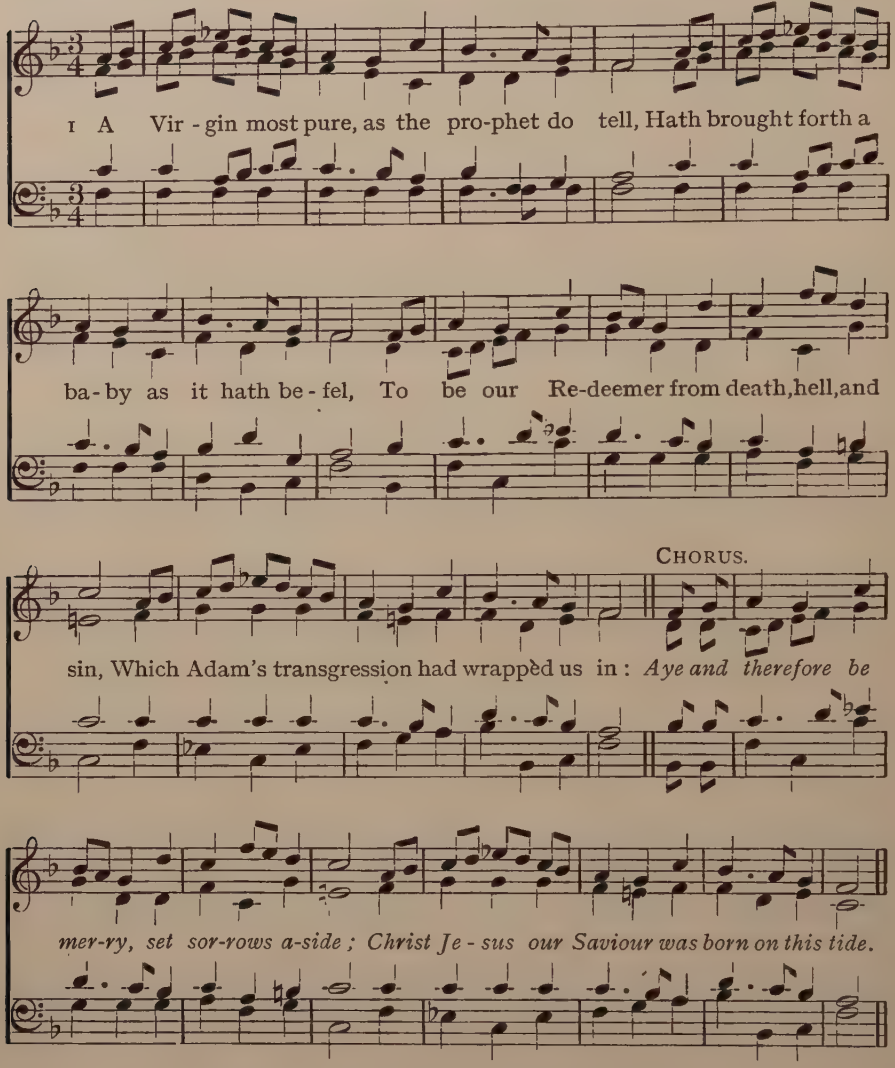
5 Then was there with the Angel
An host incontinent
Of heavenly bright soldiers,
Which from the highest was sent:

6 Lauding the Lord our God,
And his celestial King;
All glory be in Paradise,
This heavenly host did sing:

7 And as the Angel told them,
So to them did appear; [Christ,
They found the young Child, Jesus
With Mary, his mother dear:

2 First Tune — A Virgin most Pure

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


1 A Vir - gin most pure, as the pro-phet do tell, Hath brought forth a
ba - by as it hath be - fel, To be our Re-deemer from death, hell, and
CHORUS.
sin, Which Adam's transgression had wrappèd us in: Aye and therefore be
mer-ry, set sor-rows a-side; Christ Je - sus our Saviour was born on this tide.

A VIRGIN most pure, as the prophet do tell,
Hath brought forth a baby as it hath befel,
To be our Redeemer from death, hell, and sin,
Which Adam's transgression had wrappèd us in:

Aye and therefore be merry, set sorrows aside;
Christ Jesus our Saviour was born on this tide.

2 At Bethlem in Jewry a city there was
Where Joseph and Mary together did pass,
And there to be taxèd with many one moe,
For Cæsar commanded the same should be so:

3 But when they had entered the city so fair,
A number of people so mighty was there,
That Joseph and Mary, whose substance was small,
Could find in the inn there no lodging at all:

4 Then were they constrained in a stable to lie,
Where horses and asses they used for to tie;
Their lodging so simple they took it no scorn:
But against the next morning our Saviour was born:

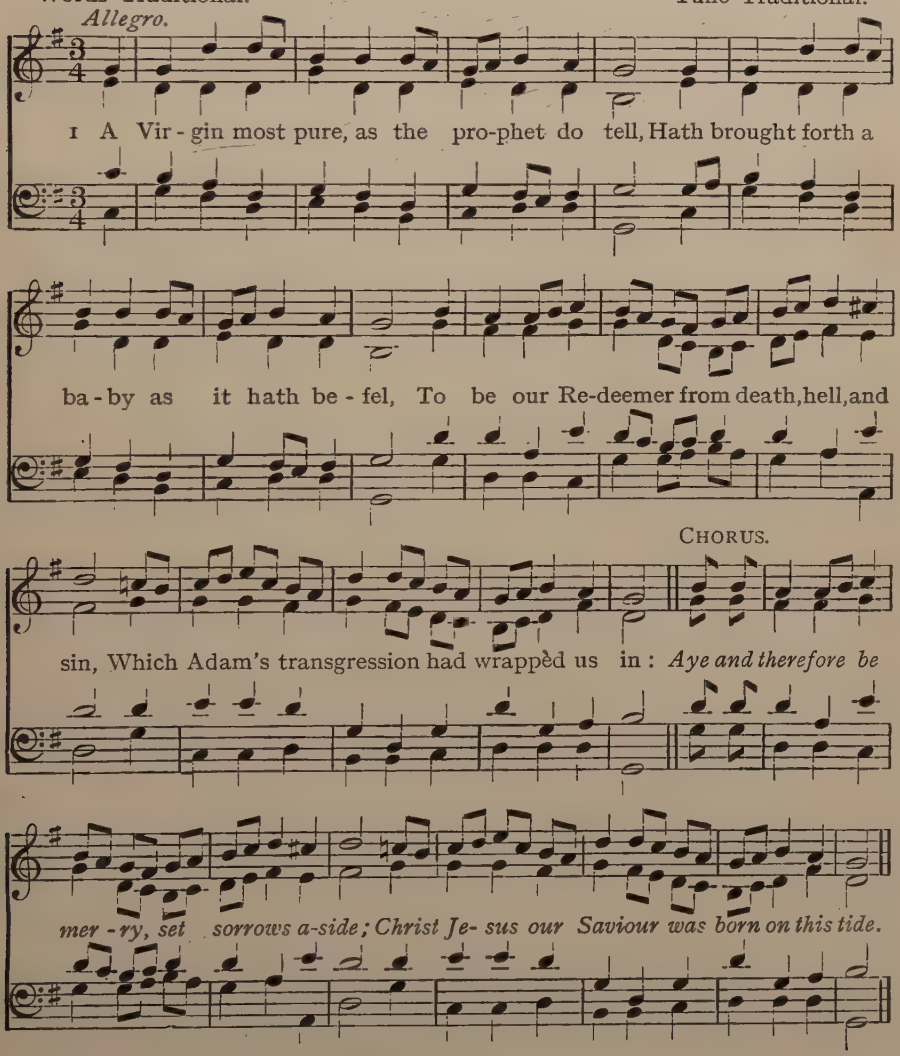
5 The King of all kings to this world being brought,
Small store of fine linen to wrap him was sought;
But when she had swaddled her young son so sweet,
Within an ox manger she laid him to sleep:

6 Then God sent an Angel from Heaven so high,
To certain poor Shepherds in fields where they lie,
And bade them no longer in sorrow to stay,
Because that our Saviour was born on this day:

7. Then presently after the Shepherds did spy
A number of Angels that stood in the sky;
They joyfully talkèd and sweetly did sing,
To God be all glory, our heavenly King:

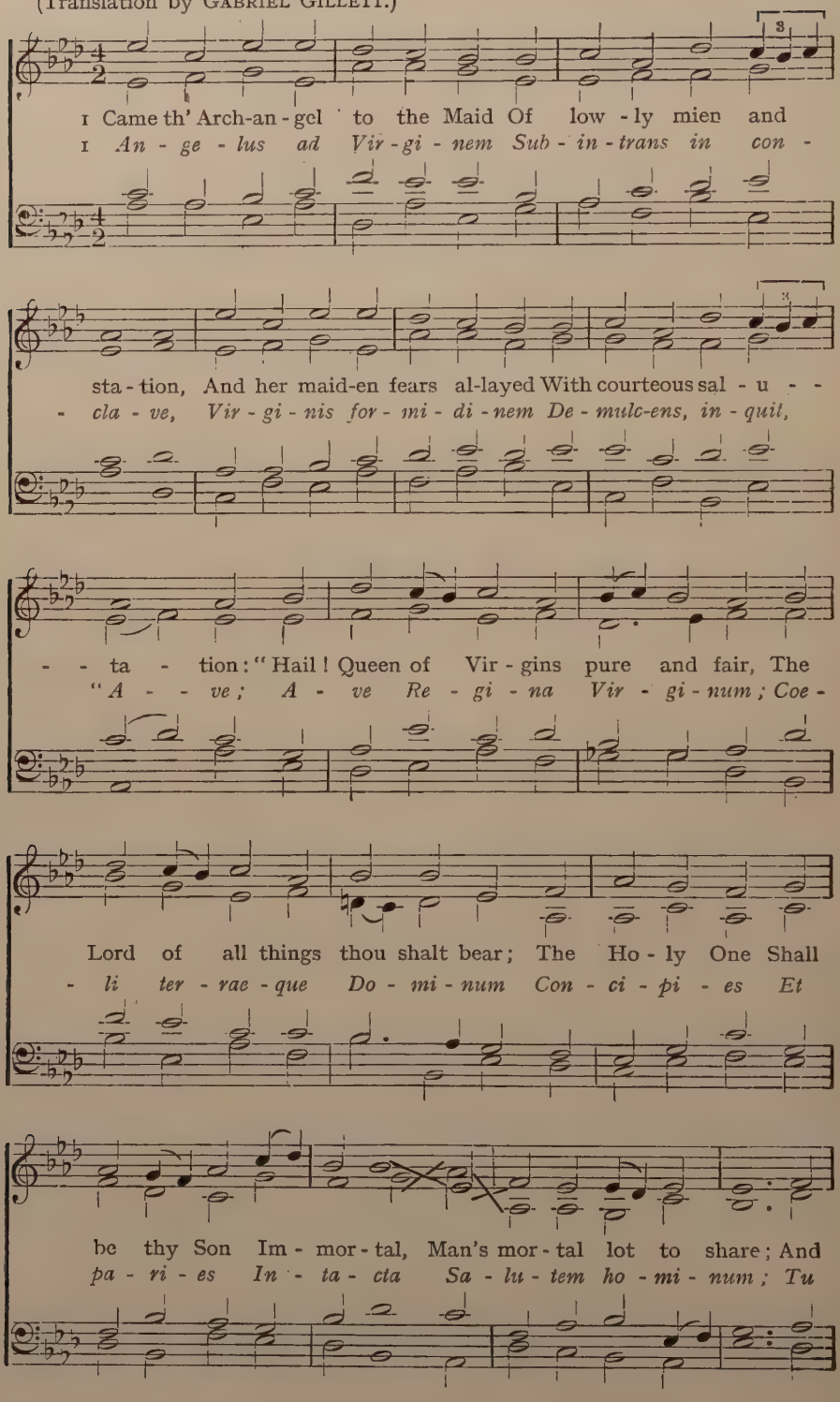
2 Second Tune — A Virgin most Pure

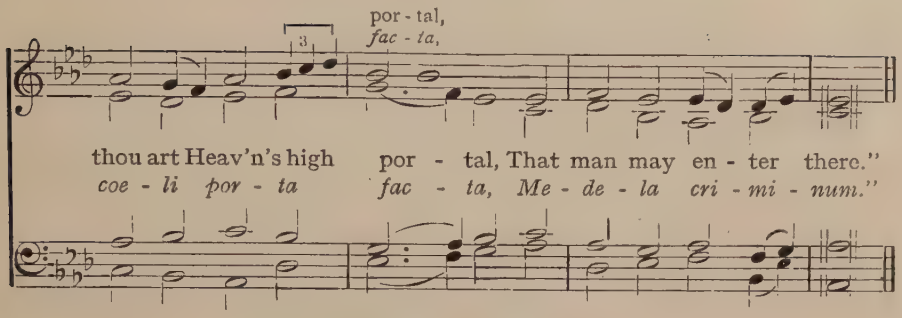
Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


Allegro.
1 A Vir - gin most pure, as the pro-phet do tell, Hath brought forth a
ba - by as it hath be - fel, To be our Re-deemer from death, hell, and
CHORUS.
sin, Which Adam's transgression had wrappèd us in: Aye and therefore be
mer - ry, set sorrows a-side; Christ Je- sus our Saviour was born on this tide.

3 Angelus ad Virginem

Latin Words and Tune 13th Cent.
(Translation by GABRIEL GILLETT.)


1 Came th' Arch-an-gel to the Maid Of low-ly mien and
1 An-ge-lus ad Vir-gi-nem Sub-in-trans in con-
sta-tion, And her maid-en fears al-layed With courteous sal-u--
-cla-ve, Vir-gi-nis for-mi-di-nem De-mulc-ens, in-quit,
--ta-tion: "Hail! Queen of Vir-gins pure and fair, The
"A--ve; A-ve Re-gi-na Vir-gi-num; Coe-
Lord of all things thou shalt bear; The Ho-ly One Shall
-li ter-rae-que Do-mi-num Con-ci-pi-es Et
be thy Son Im-mor-tal, Man's mor-tal lot to share; And
pa-ri-es In-ta-cta Sa-lu-tem ho-mi-num; Tu



CAME the Archangel to the Maid
Of lowly mien and station,
And her maiden fears allayed
With courteous salutation:
"Hail! Queen of Virgins pure and fair.
The Lord of all things thou shalt bear;
The Holy One
Shall be thy Son
Immortal,
Man's mortal lot to share;
And thou art Heaven's high portal,
That man may enter there."

2 "How shall I conceive a child,
With man's desire complying?
How shall I be thus defiled,
My steadfast vows denying?"
"The Holy Ghost," said he, "this hour
Shall come with his celestial dower:
Great joy is here,
Be not by fear
Constrainèd;
Thy maidenhood's fair flower
Shall still remain unstainèd,
Through his almighty power."

3 Spake the noble Virgin then,
Surpassing meek and lowly:
"I am but his handmaiden,
And he is God all-holy:
Do thou, who art his Angel sent
To shew his secret high intent,
His royal will
To cure our ill
Displaying,
Announce I do assent,
His wondrous work obeying
With joy and sweet content."

4. Mary, Mother of the Lord,
Who hast by thy child-bearing
Peace and happiness restored
To mortal men wayfaring,
Beseech thy blessèd Son that he
To each and all may kindly be,
Our sore offence
Of thought and sense
Forgiving:
That by his grace may we
Be numbered with the living
Through all eternity.

ANGELUS ad Virginem
Subintrans in conclave,
Virginis formidinem
Demulcens, inquit, "Ave;
Ave Regina Virginum;
Coeli terraeque Dominum
Concipies
Et paries
Intacta
Salutem hominum;
Tu coeli porta facta,
Medela criminum."

2 *"Quomodo conciperem*
Quae virum non cognovi?
Qualiter infringerem
Quae firma mente vovi?"
"Spiritus Sancti gratia
Perficiet haec omnia
Ne timeas,
Sed gaudeas,
Secura
Quod castimonia
Manebit in te pura
Dei potentia."

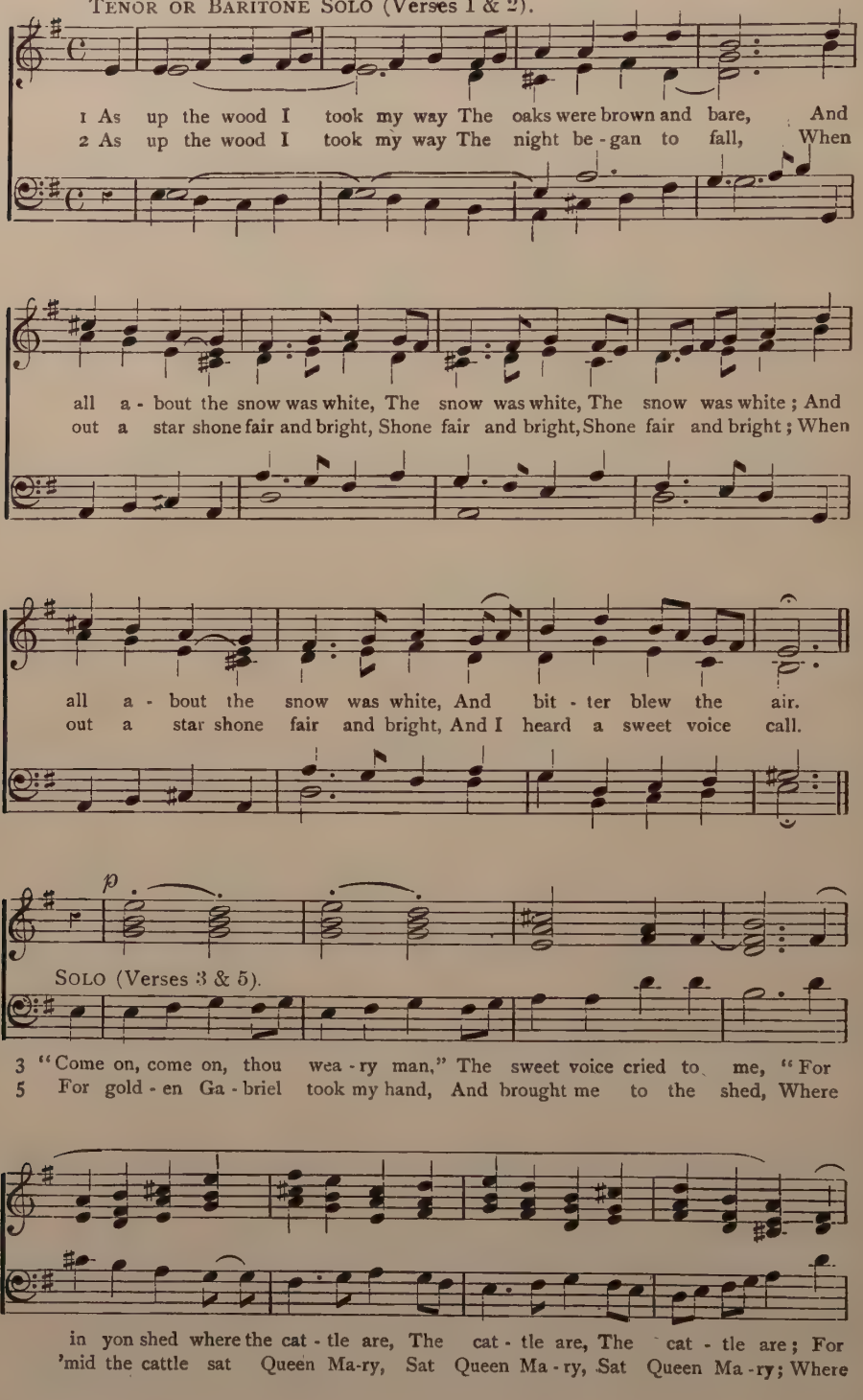
3 *Ad haec Virgo nobilis*
Respondens inquit ei:
"Ancilla sum humilis
Omnipotentis Dei.
Tibi coelesti nuntio,
Tanti secreti conscio,
Consentiens
Et cupiens
Videre
Factum quod audio,
Parata sum parere,
Dei consilio."

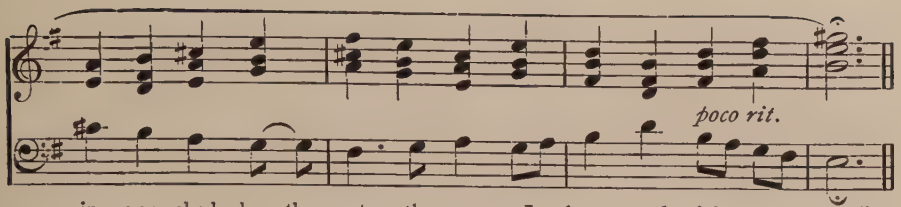
4. *Eia Mater Domini,*
Quae pacem reddidisti
Angelis et homini,
Cum Christum genuisti
Tuum exora Filium
Ut se nobis propitium
Exhibeat
Et deleat
Peccata:
Praestans auxilium
Vita frui beata
Post hoc exsilium.

4 As up the Wood I Took my Way

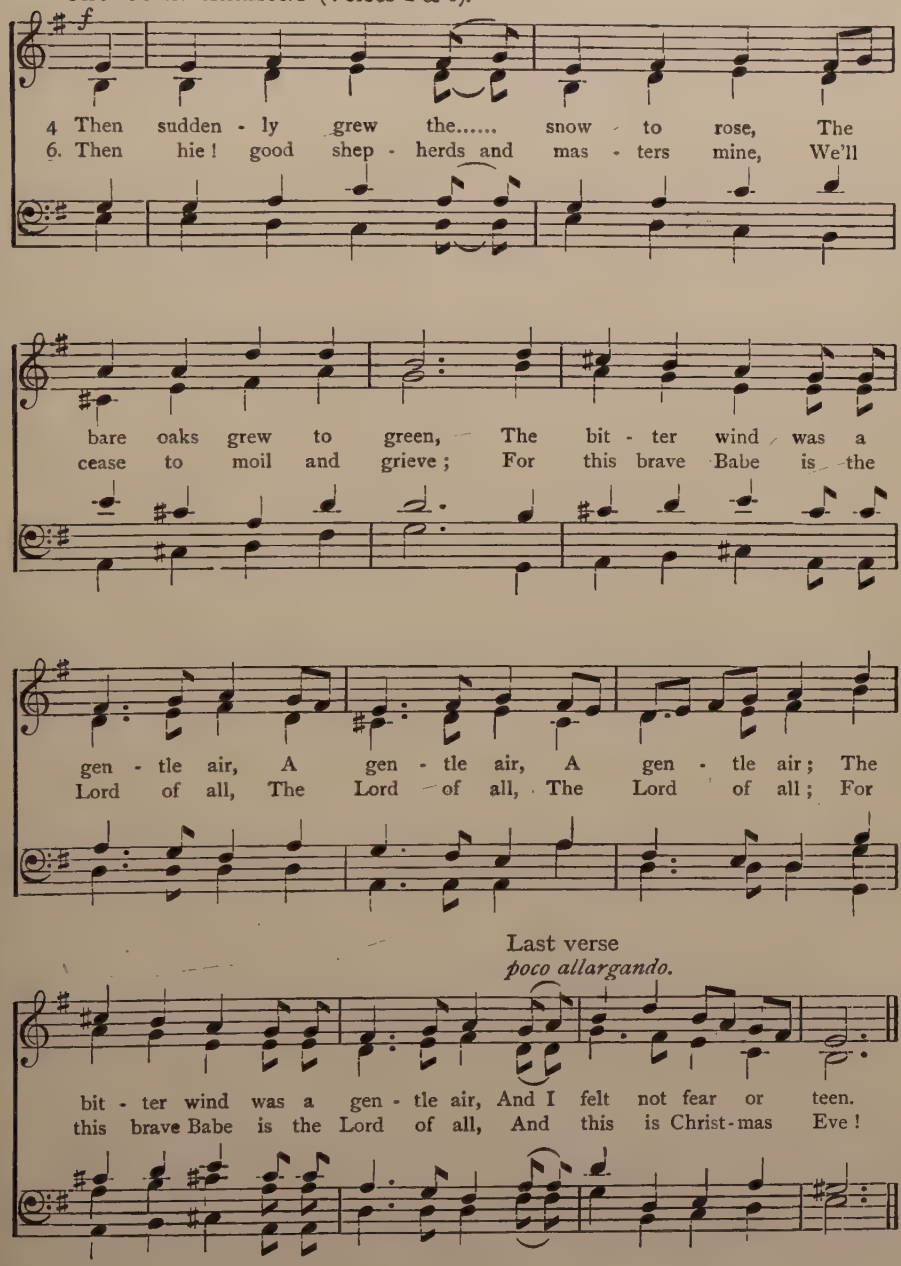
Words by SELWYN IMAGE. Music by MARTIN SHAW.

TENOR OR BARITONE SOLO (Verses 1 & 2).


1 As up the wood I took my way The oaks were brown and bare, And
2 As up the wood I took my way The night be-gan to fall, When
all a-bout the snow was white, The snow was white, The snow was white; And
out a star shone fair and bright, Shone fair and bright, Shone fair and bright; When
all a-bout the snow was white, And bit-ter blew the air.
out a star shone fair and bright, And I heard a sweet voice call.
p
SOLO (Verses 3 & 5).
3 "Come on, come on, thou wea-ry man," The sweet voice cried to me, "For
5 For gold-en Ga-briel took my hand, And brought me to the shed, Where
in yon shed where the cat-tle are, The cat-tle are, The cat-tle are; For
'mid the cattle sat Queen Ma-ry, Sat Queen Ma-ry, Sat Queen Ma-ry; Where



CHORUS IN HARMONY (Verses 4 & 6).


f
4 Then sudden - ly grew the..... snow - to rose, The
6. Then hie! good shep - herds and mas - ters mine, We'll
bare oaks grew to green, The bit - ter wind was a
cease to moil and grieve; For this brave Babe is the
gen - tle air, A gen - tle air, A gen - tle air; The
Lord of all, The Lord of all, The Lord of all; For
Last verse
poco allargando.
bit - ter wind was a gen - tle air, And I felt not fear or teen.
this brave Babe is the Lord of all, And this is Christ-mas Eve!

AS up the wood I took my way
The oaks were brown and bare,
And all about the snow was white,
The snow was white,
The snow was white;
And all about the snow was white,
And bitter blew the air.

2 As up the wood I took my way
The night began to fall,
When out a star shone fair and bright,
Shone fair and bright,
Shone fair and bright;
When out a star shone fair and bright,
And I heard a sweet voice call.

3 "Come on, come on, thou weary man,"
The sweet voice cried to me,
"For in yon shed where the cattle are,
The cattle are,
The cattle are;
For in yon shed where the cattle are,
I have good sight for thee."

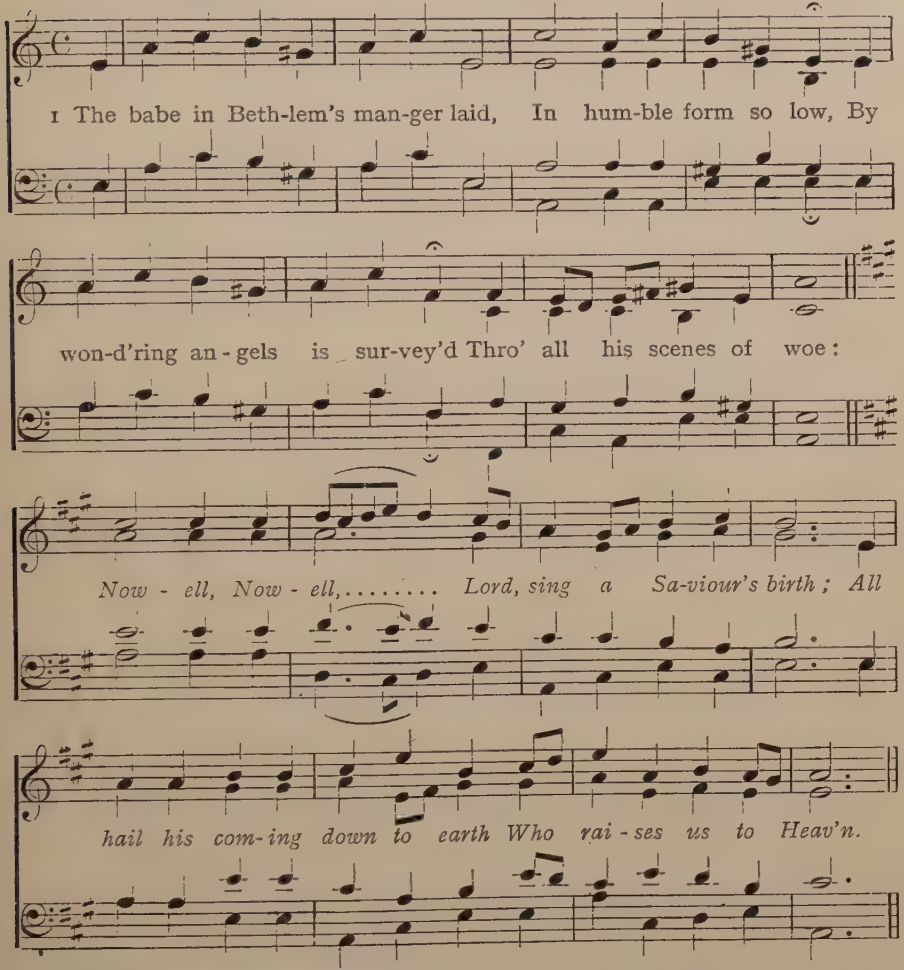
4 Then suddenly grew the snow to rose,
The bare oaks grew to green,
The bitter wind was a gentle air,
A gentle air,
A gentle air,
The bitter wind was a gentle air,
And I felt not fear or teen.

5 For golden Gabriel took my hand,
And brought me to the shed,
Where 'mid the cattle sat Queen Mary,
Sat Queen Mary,
Sat Queen Mary;
Where 'mid the cattle sat Queen Mary,
And rocked Lord Jesus' bed.

6. Then hie! good shepherds and masters mine,
We'll cease to moil and grieve;
For this brave Babe is the Lord of all,
The Lord of all,
The Lord of all;
For this brave Babe is the Lord of all,
And this is Christmas Eve!

5 The Babe in Bethlem's Manger Laid.

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


1 The babe in Beth-lem's man-ger laid, In hum-ble form so low, By
won-d'ring an-gels is sur-vey'd Thro' all his scenes of woe:
Now - ell, Now - ell,..... Lord, sing a Sa-viour's birth; All
hail his com-ing down to earth Who rai-ses us to Heav'n.

THE babe in Bethlem's manger laid,
In humble form so low,
By wondering angels is surveyed
Through all his scenes of woe:
Nowell, Nowell, Lord, sing a
Saviour's birth;
All hail his coming down to earth
Who raises us to Heaven.

2 For not to sit on David's throne
With worldly pomp and joy;
He came to earth for sin t' atone,
And Satan to destroy.
Nowell, Nowell, Lord, sing a
Saviour's birth;
All hail his coming down to earth
Who raises us to Heaven.

3 To preach the word of life divine,
And feed with living bread,
To heal the sick with hand benign,
And raise to life the dead:
Nowell, Nowell, Lord, sing a
Saviour's birth;
All hail his coming down to earth
Who raises us to Heaven.

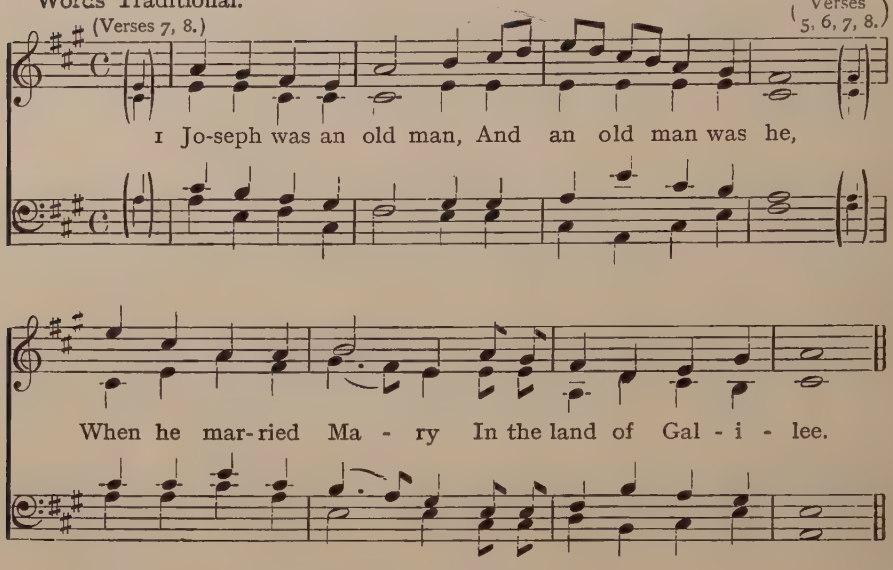
4 He preached, he suffered, bled and died,
Uplift 'twixt earth and skies;
In sinners' stead was crucified,
For sin to sacrifice:
Nowell, Nowell, Lord, sing a
Saviour's birth;
All hail his coming down to earth
Who raises us to Heaven.

5. Well may we sing a Saviour's birth,
Who need the grace so given,
And hail his coming down to earth
Who raises us to Heaven:
Nowell, Nowell, Lord, sing a
Saviour's birth;
All hail his coming down to earth
Who raises us to Heaven.

6 The Cherry-tree Carol

Words Traditional. (Verses 7, 8.)

Tune Traditional. (Verses 5, 6, 7, 8.)



JOSEPH was an old man,
And an old man was he,
When he married Mary
In the land of Galilee.

2 And as they were walking
Through an orchard so good,
Where were cherries and berries
As red as any blood—

3 O then bespoke Mary,
With words both meek and mild,
"Pluck me one cherry, Joseph;
For that I am with child."

4 "Go to the tree, Mary,
And it shall bow to thee,
And the highest branch of all
Shall bow down to Mary's knee.

5 "Go to the tree, Mary,
And it shall bow to thee;
And you shall gather cherries
By one, by two, by three."

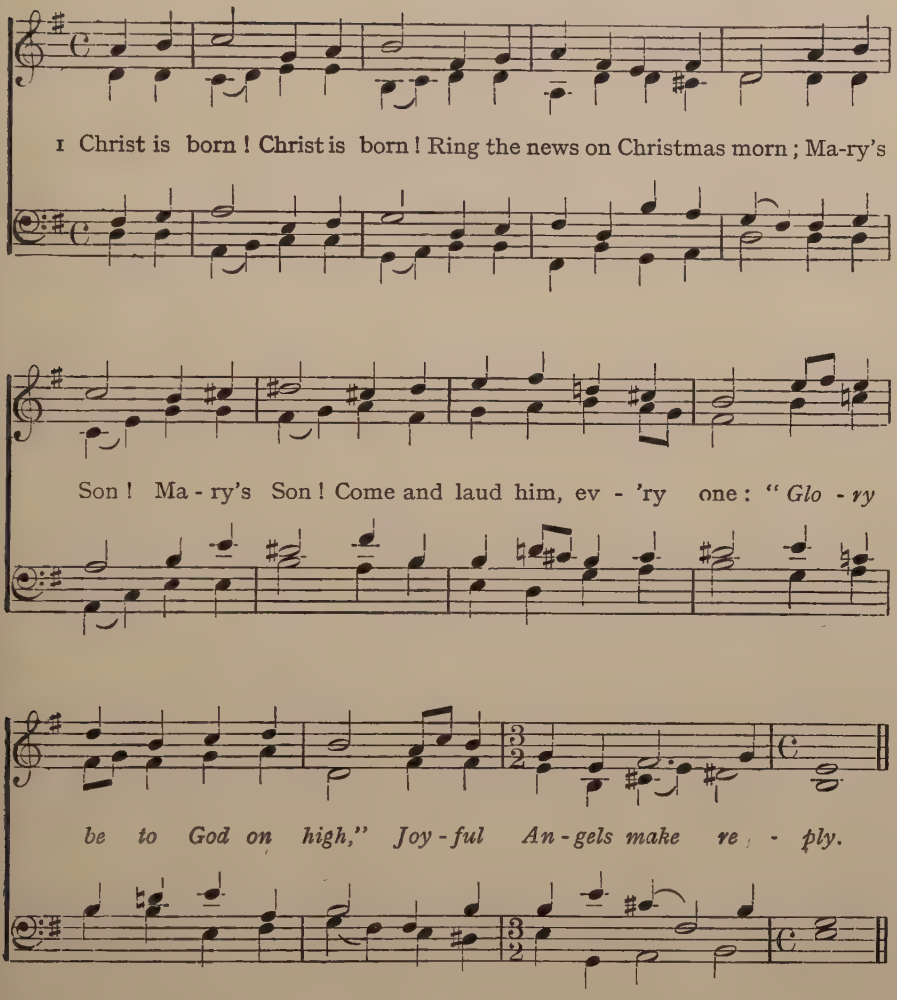
6 Then bowed down the highest tree
Unto his Mother's hand;
"See," Mary cried, "see, Joseph,
I have cherries at command."

7 "O eat your cherries, Mary,
O eat your cherries now;
O eat your cherries, Mary,
That grow upon the bough."

8. As Joseph was a-walking
There did an angel sing;
And Mary's child at midnight
Was born to be our King.

7 Christ is Born!

Words anon. Music by GEOFFREY SHAW.


1 Christ is born! Christ is born! Ring the news on Christmas morn; Ma-ry's
Son! Ma-ry's Son! Come and laud him, ev-'ry one: "Glo-ry
be to God on high," Joy-ful An-gels make re-ply.

CHRIST is born! Christ is born!
Ring the news on Christmas morn;
Mary's Son! Mary's Son!
Come and laud him, every one:
"Glory be to God on high,"
Joyful Angels make reply.

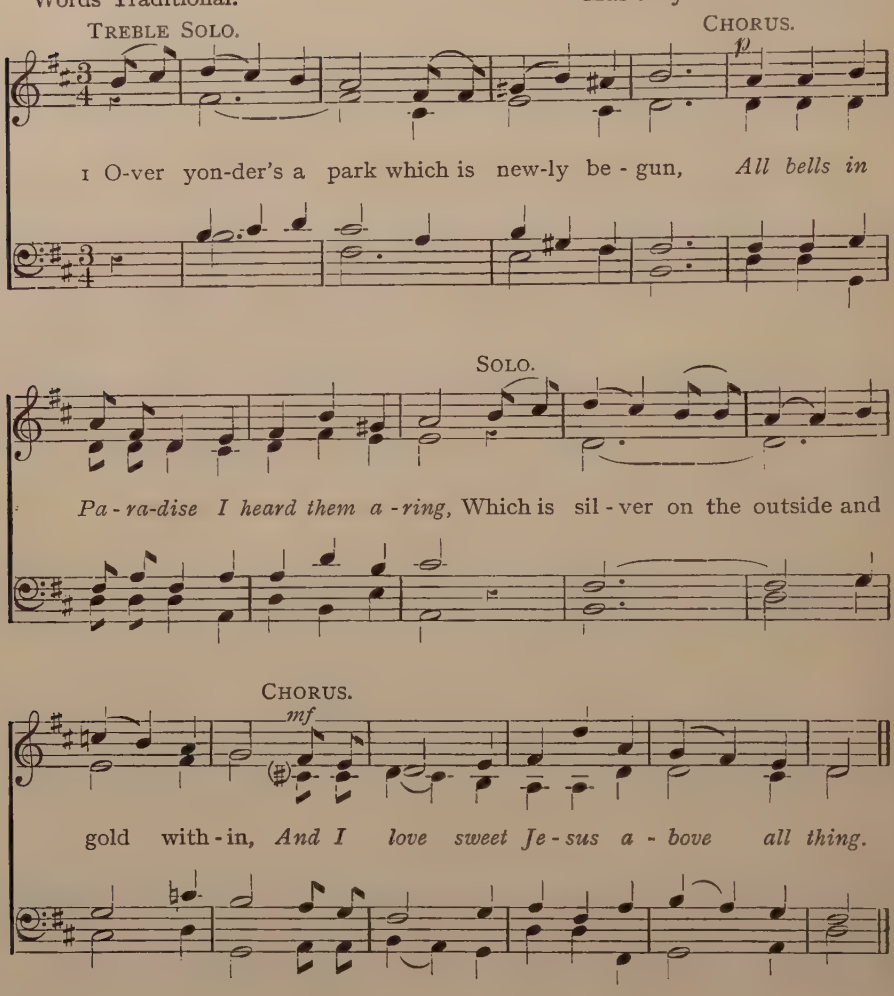
2 Lo! the Star! Lo! the Star!
Guides the wise men from afar.
Now it stays! Now it stays!
In the manger offer praise:
"Glory be to God on high,"
Joyful Angels make reply.

3 Shepherds, go! Shepherds, go!
Bethlehem shall wonders show;
You shall find! You shall find!
Mary's babe Lord of Mankind:
"Glory be to God on high,"
Joyful Angels make reply.

4. Peace on earth! Peace on earth!
Heralds in the virgin birth.
Give God thanks! Give God thanks!
Now we join the heavenly ranks:
"Glory be to God on high,"
Joyful Angels make reply.

8 The Corpus Christi Carol

Words Traditional. Music by MARTIN SHAW.


TREBLE SOLO.
CHORUS.
p
1 O-ver yon-der's a park which is new-ly be - gun, All bells in
SOLO.
Pa - ra-dise I heard them a - ring, Which is sil - ver on the outside and
CHORUS.
mf
gold with - in, And I love sweet Je - sus a - bove all thing.

OVER yonder's a park which is newly begun,
All bells in Paradise I heard them a-ring,
Which is silver on the outside and gold within,
And I love sweet Jesus above all thing.

2 And in that park there stands a hall,
All bells in Paradise I heard them a-ring,
Which is covered all over with purple and pall,
And I love sweet Jesus above all thing.

3 And in that hall there stands a bed,
All bells in Paradise I heard them a-ring,
Which is hung all round with silk curtains red,
And I love sweet Jesus above all thing.

4 And in that bed there lies a knight,
All bells in Paradise I heard them a-ring,
Whose wounds they do bleed by day and by night,
And I love sweet Jesus above all thing.

5 At that bedside there lies a stone,
All bells in Paradise I heard them a-ring,
Which the sweet Virgin Mary knelt upon,
And I love sweet Jesus above all thing.

6 At that bed's foot there lies a hound,
All bells in Paradise I heard them a-ring,
Which is licking the blood as it daily runs down,
And I love sweet Jesus above all thing.

7. At that bed's head there grows a thorn,
All bells in Paradise I heard them a-ring,
Which ever blows blossom since Christ was born,
And I love sweet Jesus above all thing.

NOTE.—The earliest version, *c.* 1400, is different in many ways, and has the Refrain :

"*Lully, lulley, lully, lulley,*
The faucon hath borne my make away."

The version here printed was taken down from a troupe of Christmas Morris dancers, in North Staffordshire, in 1862. Two lines in verses 5 and 6 are from another version taken down in Derbyshire in 1908.

Here is the text of the early MS., which is dated *c.* 1400 After the Refrain quoted above :—

HE bare him up, he bare him down,
He bare him into an orchard brown.

2 In that orchard there was an halle
That was hanged with purpill and pall.

3 And in that halle there was a bede,
It was hanged with gold so rede.

4 And in that bede there lith a knight,
His woundes bleding day and night.

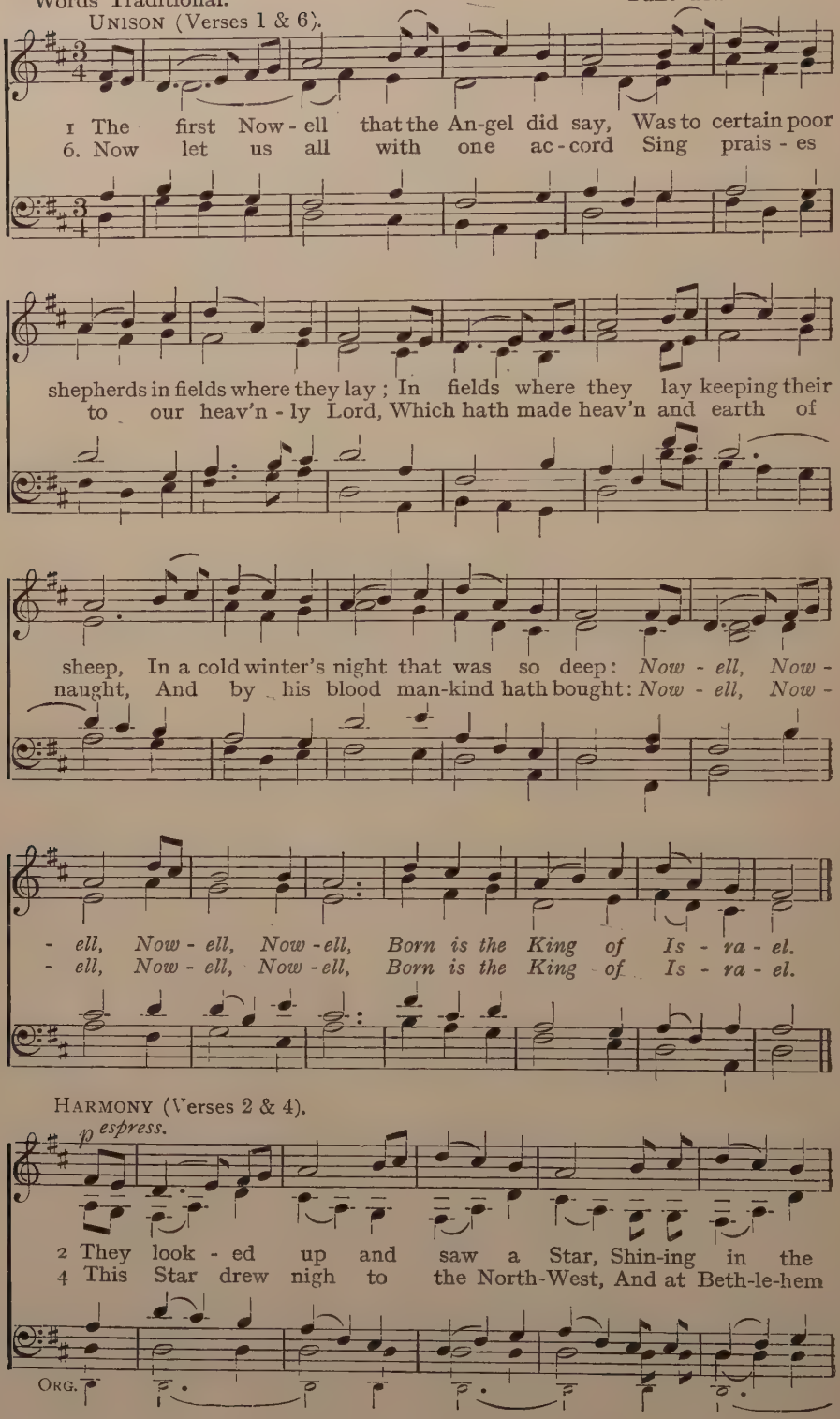
5 By that bedeside kneleth a may,
And she weepeth both night and day.

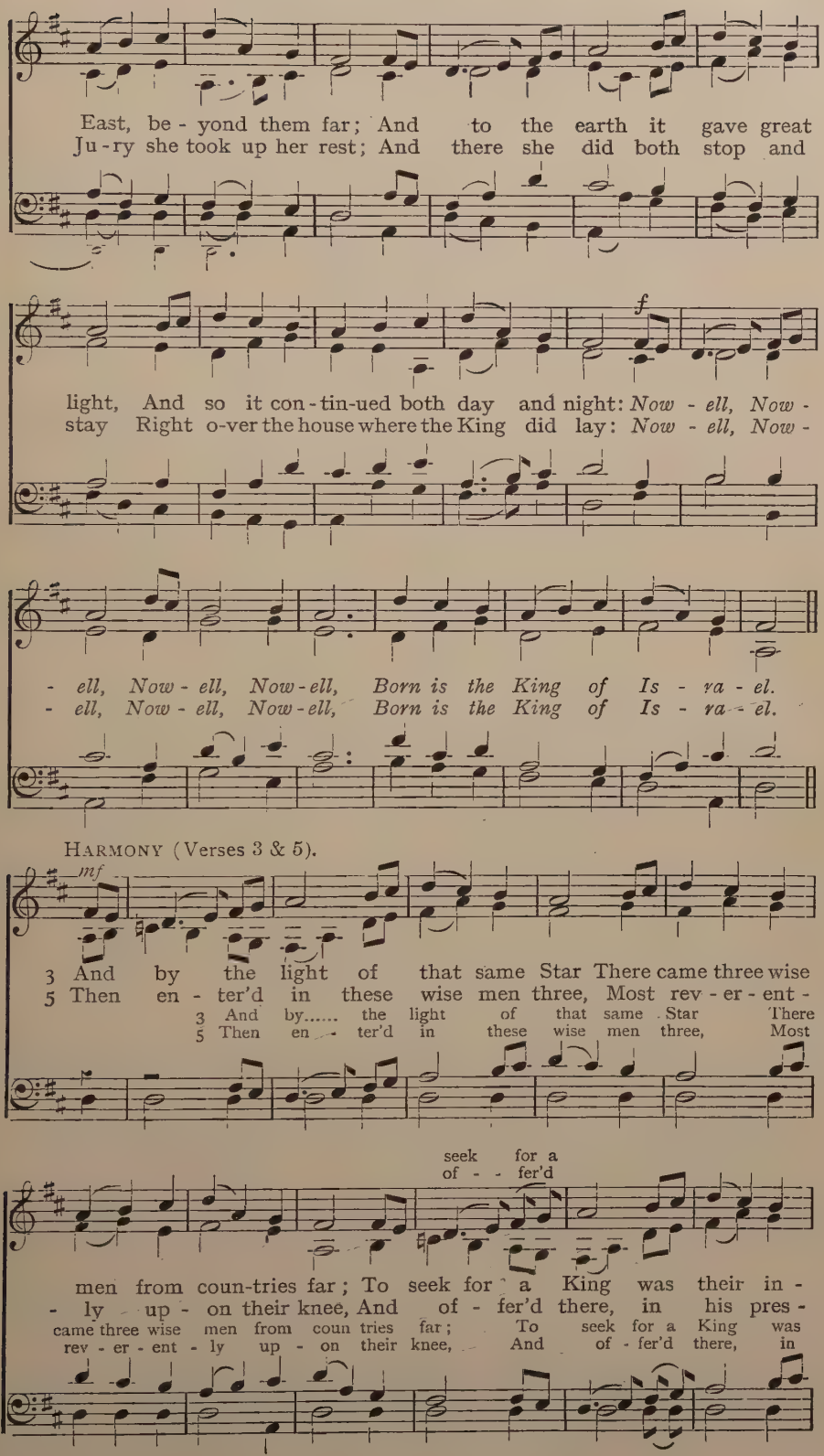
6. And by that bedeside there standeth a stone,
Corpus Christi wreten thereon.

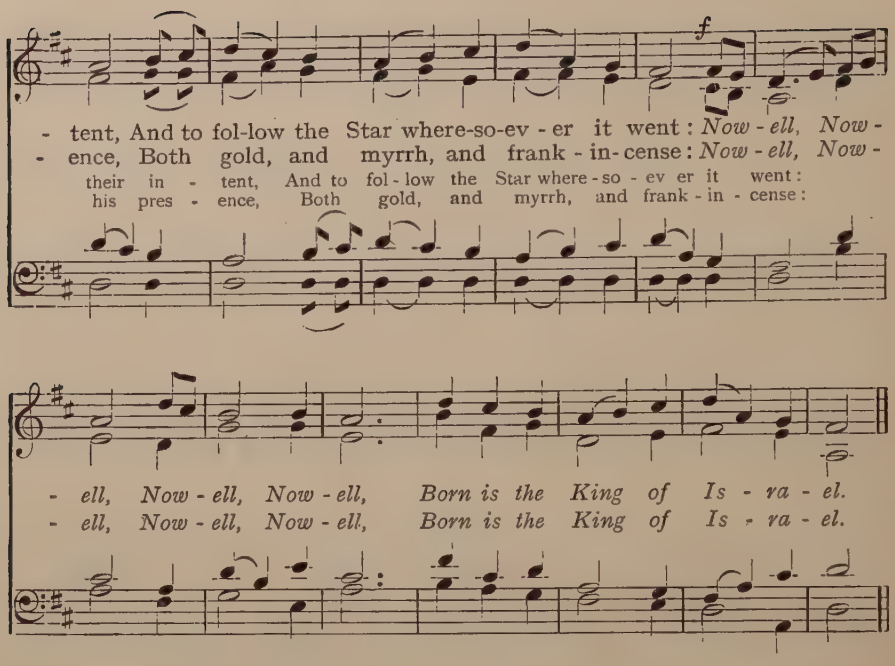
NOTE.—The allusions, of course, in all versions are mystical—the bed hung round with curtains being the altar, the wounded knight the eucharistic sacrifice. The thorn, the dove mourning over the loss of her mate, and other allusions have led Miss Annie Gilchrist to find an interesting further interpretation in the Legends of the Holy Grail. (See *Journal of the Folk-Song Society*, No. 14, June, 1910, pp. 52–66.)

9 The First Nowell

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


UNISON (Verses 1 & 6).
1 The first Now - ell that the An-gel did say, Was to certain poor
6. Now let us all with one ac - cord Sing prais - es
shepherds in fields where they lay; In fields where they lay keeping their
to our heav'n - ly Lord, Which hath made heav'n and earth of
sheep, In a cold winter's night that was so deep: Now - ell, Now -
naught, And by his blood man-kind hath bought: Now - ell, Now -
- ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.
- ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.
HARMONY (Verses 2 & 4).
p espress.
2 They look - ed up and saw a Star, Shin-ing in the
4 This Star drew nigh to the North-West, And at Beth-le-hem
ORG.


East, be - yond them far; And to the earth it gave great
Ju - ry she took up her rest; And there she did both stop and
f
light, And so it con - tin-ued both day and night: Now - ell, Now -
stay Right o-ver the house where the King did lay: Now - ell, Now -
- ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.
- ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.
HARMONY (Verses 3 & 5).
mf
3 And by the light of that same Star There came three wise
5 Then en - ter'd in these wise men three, Most rev - er - ent -
3 And by..... the light of that same Star There
5 Then en - ter'd in these wise men three, Most
seek for a
of - - fer'd
men from coun-tries far; To seek for a King was their in -
- ly - up - on their knee, And of - fer'd there, in his pres -
came three wise men from coun tries far; To seek for a King was
rev - er - ent - ly up - on their knee, And of - fer'd there, in


- tent, And to fol-low the Star where-so-ev - er it went: Now - ell, Now -
- ence, Both gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense: Now - ell, Now -
their in - tent, And to fol - low the Star where - so - ev er it went:
his pres - ence, Both gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense:
- ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.
- ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

THE first Nowell that the Angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields where they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
In a cold winter's night that was so deep:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a Star,
Shining in the East, beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night:

3 And by the light of that same Star
There came three wise men from countries far;
To seek for a King was their intent,
And to follow the Star wheresoever it went:

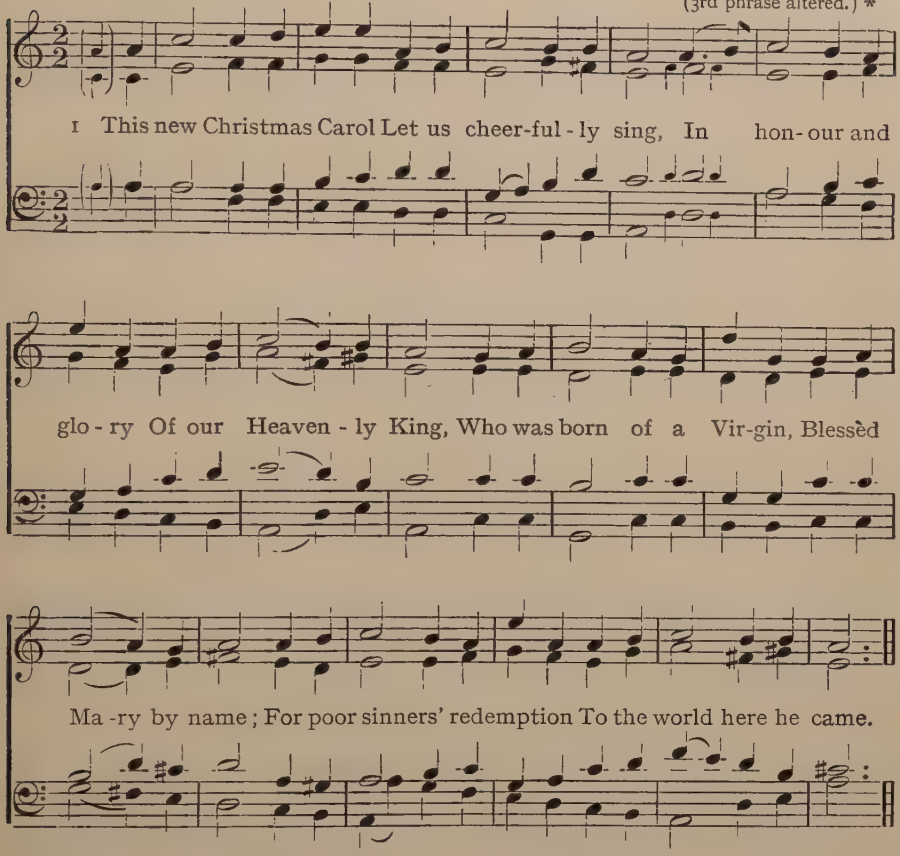
4 This Star drew nigh to the North-West,
And at Bethlehem Jury she took up her rest;
And there she did both stop and stay
Right over the house where the King did lay:

5 Then entered in these wise men three,
Most reverently upon their knee,
And offered there, in his presence,
Both gold, and myrrh, and frankincense:

6. Now let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
Which hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And by his blood mankind hath bought:

10 This New Christmas Carol

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.
(3rd phrase altered.) *


1 This new Christmas Carol Let us cheer-ful-ly sing, In hon-our and
glo-ry Of our Heaven-ly King, Who was born of a Vir-gin, Blessèd
Ma-ry by name; For poor sinners' redemption To the world here he came.

THIS new Christmas Carol
Let us cheerfully sing,
In honour and glory
Of our Heavenly King,
Who was born of a Virgin,
Blessèd Mary by name;
For poor sinners' redemption
To the world here he came.

2 Now the proud may come hither
And may perfectly see
The most excellent pattern
Of humility;
For instead of a cradle,
Decked with ornaments gay,
Here the great King of Glory
In a manger he lay.

3 As the shepherds were feeding
Of their flocks in the field,
The sweet birth of our Saviour
Unto them was revealed
By blest angels of glory,
Who these tidings did bring,
And directed the shepherds
To their Heavenly King.

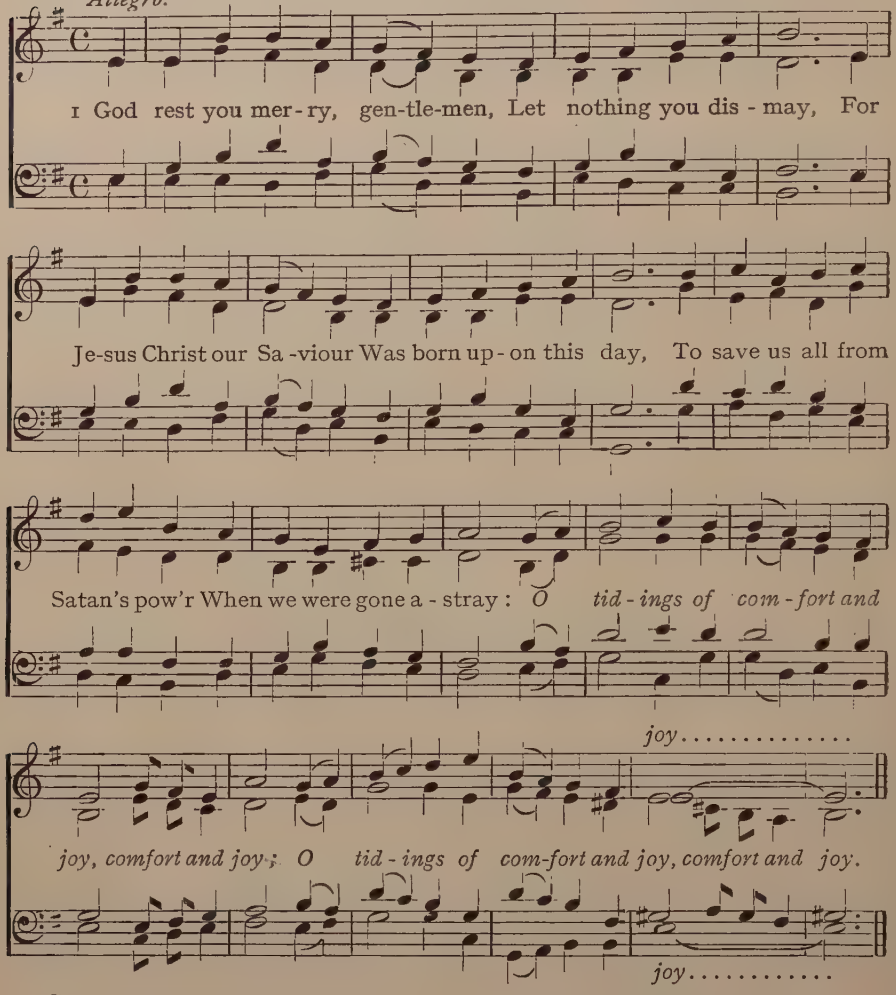
4 When the wise men discovered
This bright heavenly Star,
Then with gold and rich spices
Straight they came from afar,
In obedience to worship
With a heavenly mind,
Knowing that he was born
All for the good of mankind.

5. Let us learn of those sages,
Who were wise, to obey;
May we find through all ages
They have honoured this day,
Ever since our Redeemer's
Blest nativity,
Who was born of a Virgin
To set poor sinners free.

* It seemed best, in order to avoid monotony, to write the melody of the 3rd phrase a tone lower. In the first printed copy the tune consists of one phrase repeated three times. It is quite likely that the tune was incorrectly noted from the singer.

11 First Tune God Rest you Merry, Gentlemen

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


Aliegro.
1 God rest you mer-ry, gen-tle-men, Let nothing you dis-may, For
Je-sus Christ our Sa-viour Was born up-on this day, To save us all from
Satan's pow'r When we were gone a-stray: O tid-ings of com-fort and
joy.....
joy, comfort and joy; O tid-ings of com-fort and joy, comfort and joy.
joy.....

GOD rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
(*For Jesus Christ our Saviour*
Was born on Christmas Day.)

2 In Bethlehem in Jury
This blessèd babe was born,
And laid within a manger,
Upon this blessèd morn;
The which his Mother Mary
Nothing did take in scorn:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
(*For Jesus Christ our Saviour*
Was born on Christmas Day.)

3 From God our heavenly Father
A blessèd Angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
(*For Jesus Christ our Saviour*
Was born on Christmas Day.)

4 "Fear not," then said the Angel,
"Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Saviour,
Of virtue, power, and might;
So frequently to vanquish all
The fiends of Satan quite:"
O tidings of comfort and joy,
(*For Jesus Christ our Saviour*
Was born on Christmas Day.)

NOTE.—Words in brackets are to be sung only when the Second Tune is used.

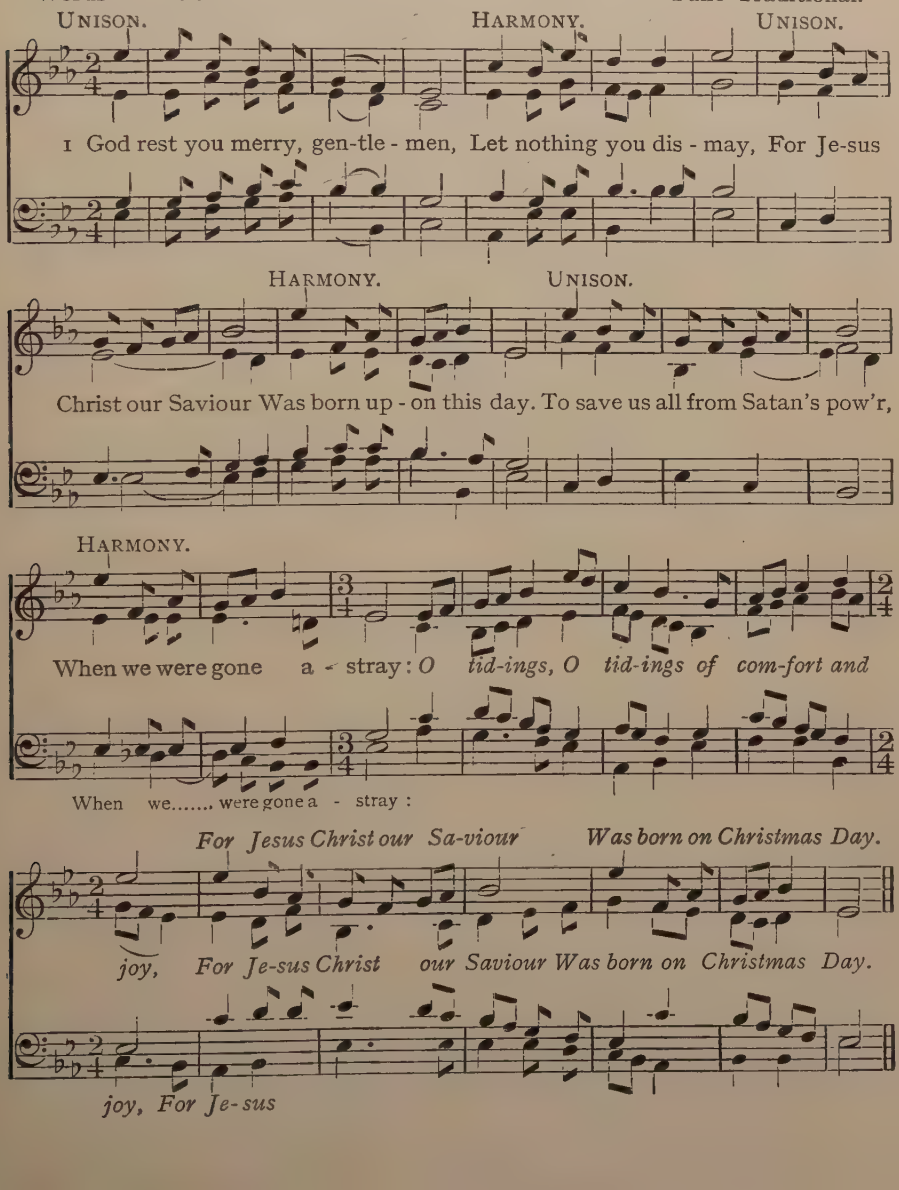
5 The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoicèd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This Blessèd Babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
(For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day.)

6 But when to Bethlehem they came,
Whereas this infant lay,
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay;
His Mother Mary kneeling,
Unto the Lord did pray:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
(For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day.)

7. Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy,
(For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day.)

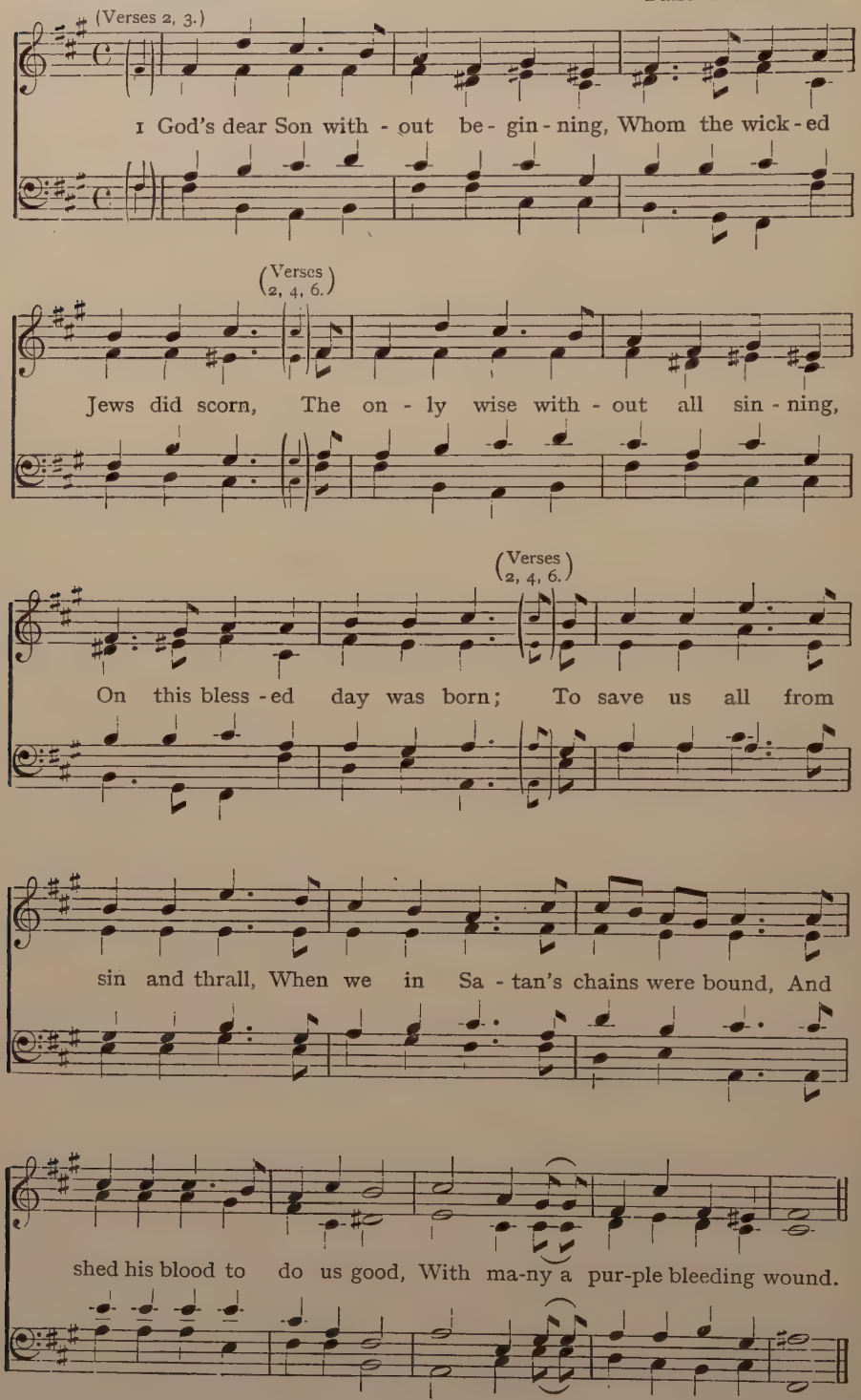
11 Second Tune God Rest you Merry, Gentlemen

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


UNISON.
HARMONY.
UNISON.
1 God rest you merry, gen-tle-men, Let nothing you dis-may, For Je-sus
HARMONY.
UNISON.
Christ our Saviour Was born up-on this day. To save us all from Satan's pow'r,
HARMONY.
When we were gone a-stray: O tid-ings, O tid-ings of com-fort and
When we..... were gone a-stray:
For Jesus Christ our Sa-viour Was born on Christmas Day.
joy, For Je-sus Christ our Saviour Was born on Christmas Day.
joy, For Je-sus

12 God's Dear Son

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


(Verses 2, 3.)
1 God's dear Son with - out be - gin - ning, Whom the wick - ed
(Verses 2, 4, 6.)
Jews did scorn, The on - ly wise with - out all sin - ning,
(Verses 2, 4, 6.)
On this bless - ed day was born; To save us all from
sin and thrall, When we in Sa - tan's chains were bound, And
shed his blood to do us good, With ma-ny a pur-ple bleeding wound.

GOD'S dear Son without beginning,
Whom the wicked Jews did scorn,
The only wise without all sinning,
On this blessèd day was born;
To save us all from sin and thrall,
When we in Satan's chains were bound,
And shed his blood to do us good,
With many a purple bleeding wound.

2 At Bethlehem, King David's city,
Mary's Babe had sweet creation;
God and man endued with pity,
And a Saviour of each nation.
Yet Jewry land with cruel hand
Both first and last his power envied;
Where he was born they did him scorn,
And shewed him malice when he died.

3 No kingly robes nor golden treasure
Decked the birthday of God's Son;
No pompal train at all took pleasure
To this King of kings to run.
No mantle brave could Jesus have
Upon his cradle for to lie;
No music's charms in nurse's arms,
To sing the babe a lullaby.

4 Yet as Mary sat in solace,
By our Saviour's first beginning,
Hosts of angels from God's palace
Sounded sweet from Heaven singing;
Yea, Heaven and earth, for Jesus' birth,
With sweet melodious tunes abound,
And everything for Jewry's King
Upon the earth gave cheerful sound.

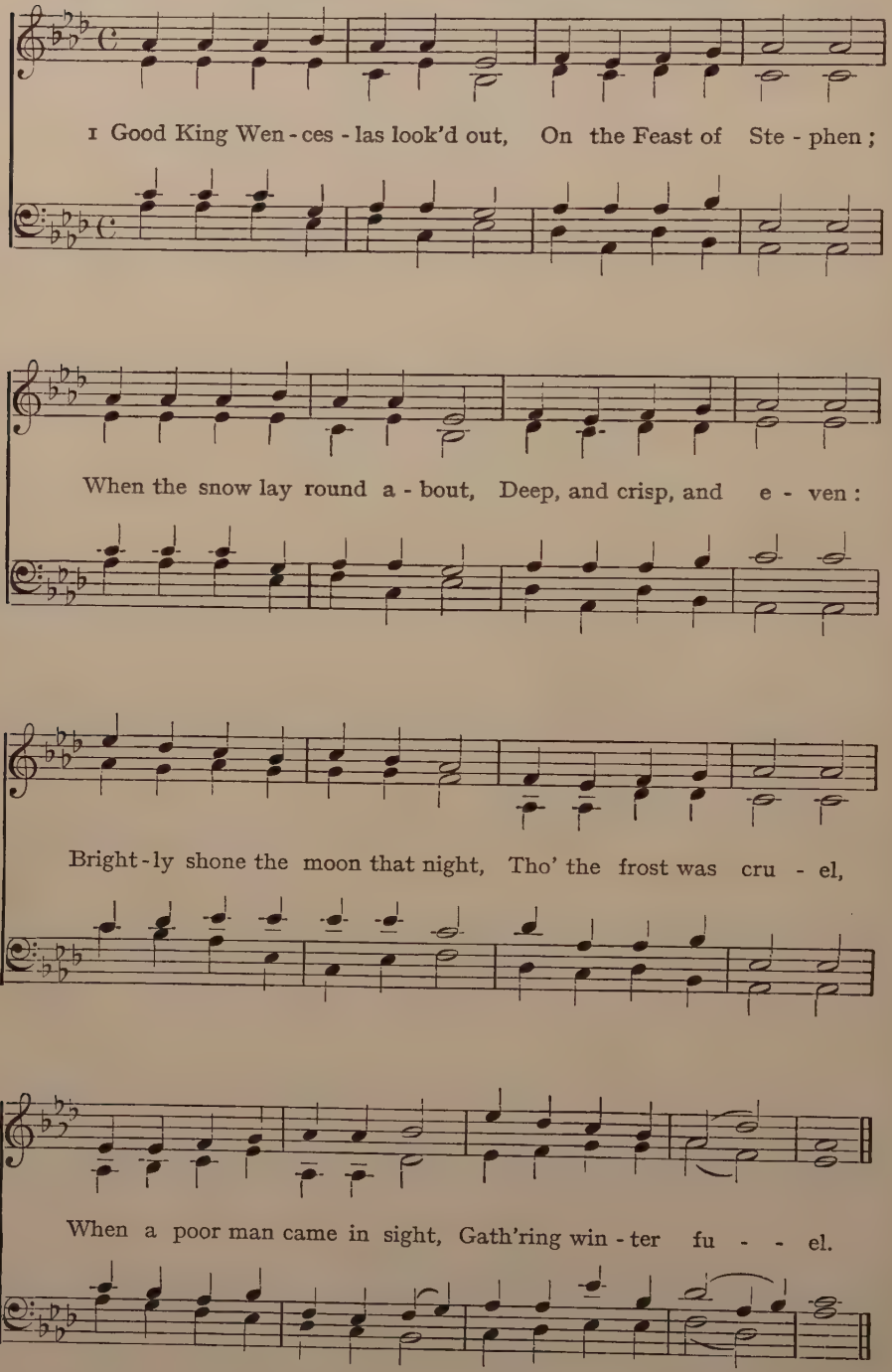
5 Then with angels' love inspirèd,
Three wise princes from the East,
To Bethlehem as they desirèd,
Came whereas the Lord did rest:
And there they laid before the maid,
Before her Son, our God and King,
Their offerings sweet, as was most meet,
Unto so great a power to bring.

6. Now to him that hath redeemed us,
By his precious death and passion;
And us sinners so esteemed us,
To buy dearly this salvation.
Yield lasting fame, that still the name
Of Jesus may be honoured here;
And let us say that Christmas Day
Is still the best day in the year.

13 Good King Wenceslas

Words by Rev. J. M. Neale.

Tune from "Piæ Cantiones" (1582).
(Setting by Geoffrey and Martin Shaw.)


1 Good King Wen - ces - las look'd out, On the Feast of Ste - phen;
When the snow lay round a - bout, Deep, and crisp, and e - ven:
Bright - ly shone the moon that night, Tho' the frost was cru - el,
When a poor man came in sight, Gath'ring win - ter fu - - el.

GOOD King Wenceslas looked out,
On the Feast of Stephen;
When the snow lay round about,
Deep, and crisp, and even:
Brightly shone the moon that night,
Though the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight,
Gathering winter fuel.

2 "Hither, page, and stand by me,
If thou know'st it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?"
"Sire, he lives a good league hence
Underneath the mountain;
Right against the forest fence,
By Saint Agnes' fountain."

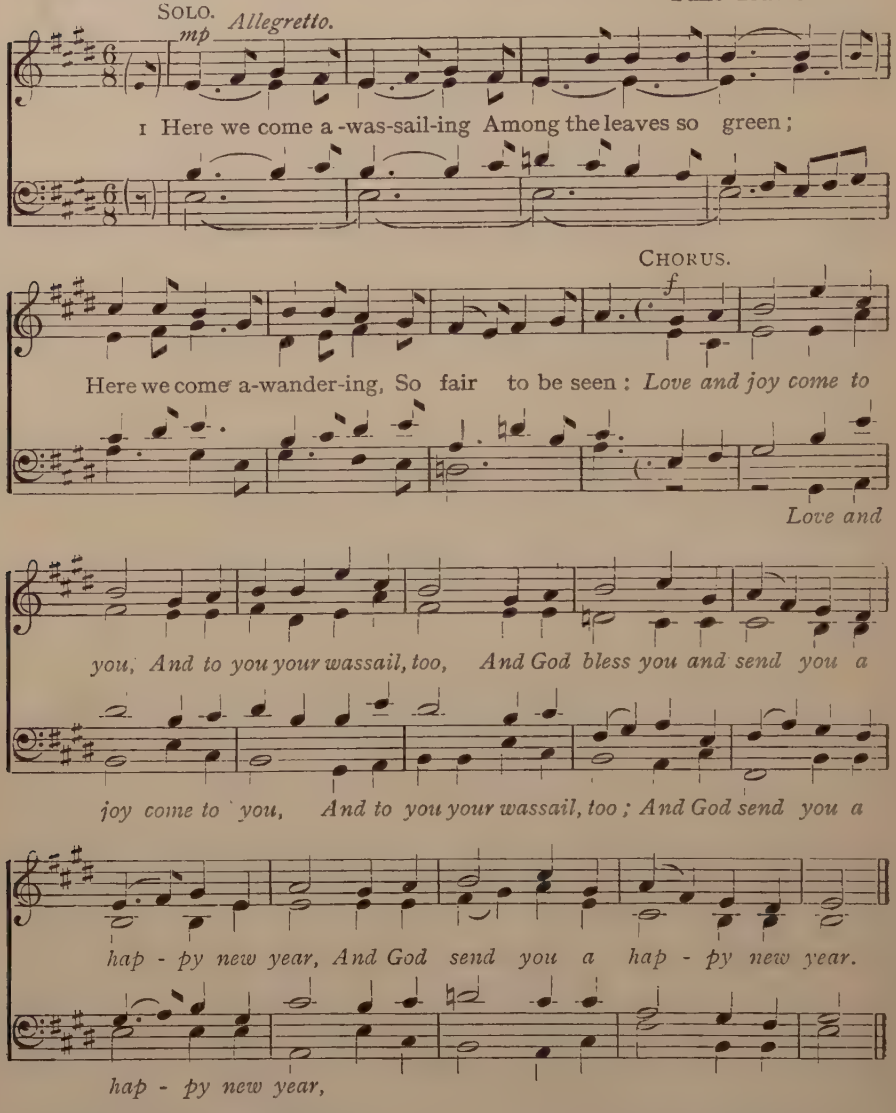
3 "Bring me flesh, and bring me wine,
Bring me pine-logs hither:
Thou and I will see him dine,
When we bear them thither."
Page and monarch forth they went,
Forth they went together;
Through the rude wind's wild lament
And the bitter weather.

4 "Sire, the night is darker now,
And the wind blows stronger,
Fails my heart, I know not how;
I can go no longer."
"Mark my footsteps, good my page;
Tread thou in them boldly:
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly."

5. In his master's steps he trod,
Where the snow laid dinted;
Heat was in the very sod
Which the Saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian men, be sure,
Wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor,
Shall yourselves find blessing.

14 First Tune — Here we Come a-Wassailing

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


SOLO. Allegretto.
mp
1 Here we come a-was-sail-ing Among the leaves so green;
CHORUS.
f
Here we come a-wander-ing, So fair to be seen: Love and joy come to
Love and
you, And to you your wassail, too, And God bless you and send you a
joy come to you, And to you your wassail, too; And God send you a
hap - py new year, And God send you a hap - py new year.
hap - py new year,

HERE we come a-wassailing
Among the leaves so green;
Here we come a-wandering,
So fair to be seen:

Love and joy come to you,
And to you your wassail, too,
And God bless you and send you
a happy new year,
And God send you a happy new
year.

2 We are not daily beggars,
That beg from door to door,
But we are neighbours' children,
Whom you have seen before:

Love and joy come to you,
And to you your wassail, too,
And God bless you and send you
a happy new year, [*year.*
And God send you a happy new

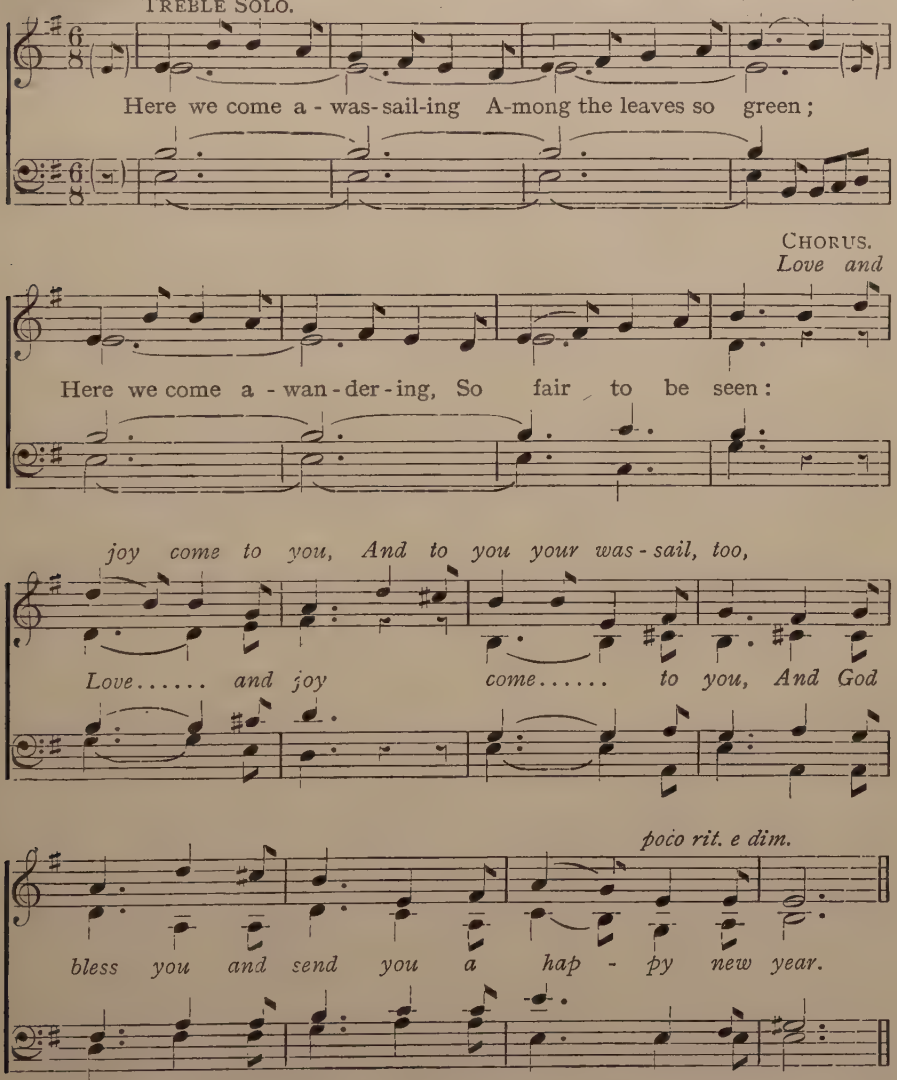
3 We have got a little purse
Of stretching leather-skin;
We want a little money
To line it well within:

Love and joy come to you,
And to you your wassail, too,
And God bless you and send you
a happy new year, [*year.*
And God send you a happy new

4 God bless the master of this house,
Likewise the mistress, too;
And all the little children,
That round the table go:
Love and joy come to you,
And to you your wassail, too,
And God bless you and send you
a happy new year, [*year,*
And God send you a happy new

5. Good master and good mistress,
While you're sitting by the fire,
Pray think of us poor children
A-wand'ring in the mire:
Love and joy come to you,
And to you your wassail, too,
And God bless you and send you
a happy new year, [*year.*
And God send you a happy new

14 Second Tune — Here we Come a-Wassailing

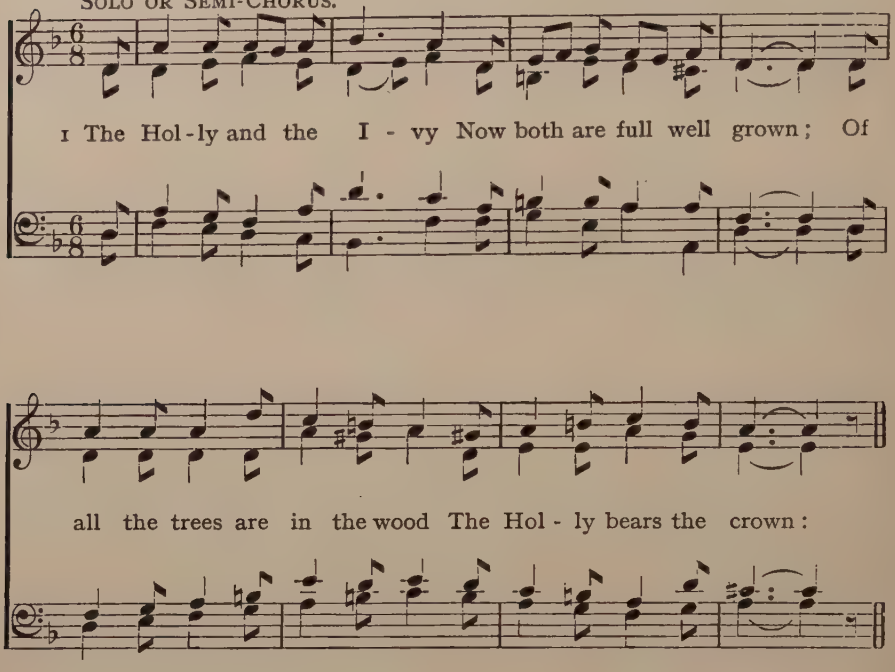
Words Traditional. Tune Traditional (Yorkshire).

TREBLE SOLO.
Here we come a - was-sail-ing A-mong the leaves so green;
CHORUS.
Love and
Here we come a - wan-der-ing, So fair to be seen:
joy come to you, And to you your was-sail, too,
Love..... and joy come..... to you, And God
poco rit. e dim.
bless you and send you a hap - py new year.

The above beautiful traditional tune was sung in the streets of Leeds in the 'fifties of last century by my father, the late James Shaw, from whom I learnt it. It is, of course, much older than that. I have never seen it in print. The Rev. J. T. Horton, a Bradford parson, tells me that the tune is still well known and often sung by Christmas waits in the West Riding.

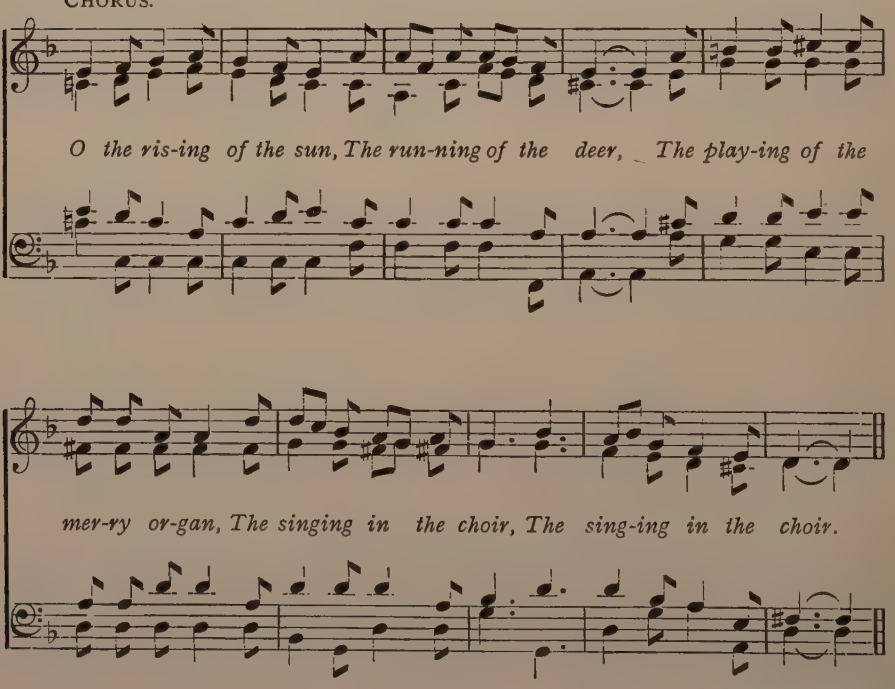
15 The Holly and the Ivy

Words Traditional. Tune—Old French.

SOLO OR SEMI-CHORUS.



CHORUS.


O the ris-ing of the sun, The run-ning of the deer, The play-ing of the
mer-ry or-gan, The singing in the choir, The sing-ing in the choir.

THE Holly and the Ivy
Now both are full well grown;
Of all the trees are in the wood
The Holly bears the crown:

O the rising of the sun,
The running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
The singing in the choir.

2 The Holly bears a blossom
As white as any flower,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To be our sweet Saviour:

O the rising of the sun,
The running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
The singing in the choir.

3 The Holly bears a berry,
As red as any blood,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
To do poor sinners good:

O the rising of the sun,
The running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
The singing in the choir.

4 The Holly bears a prickle
As sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
On Christmas Day in the morn:

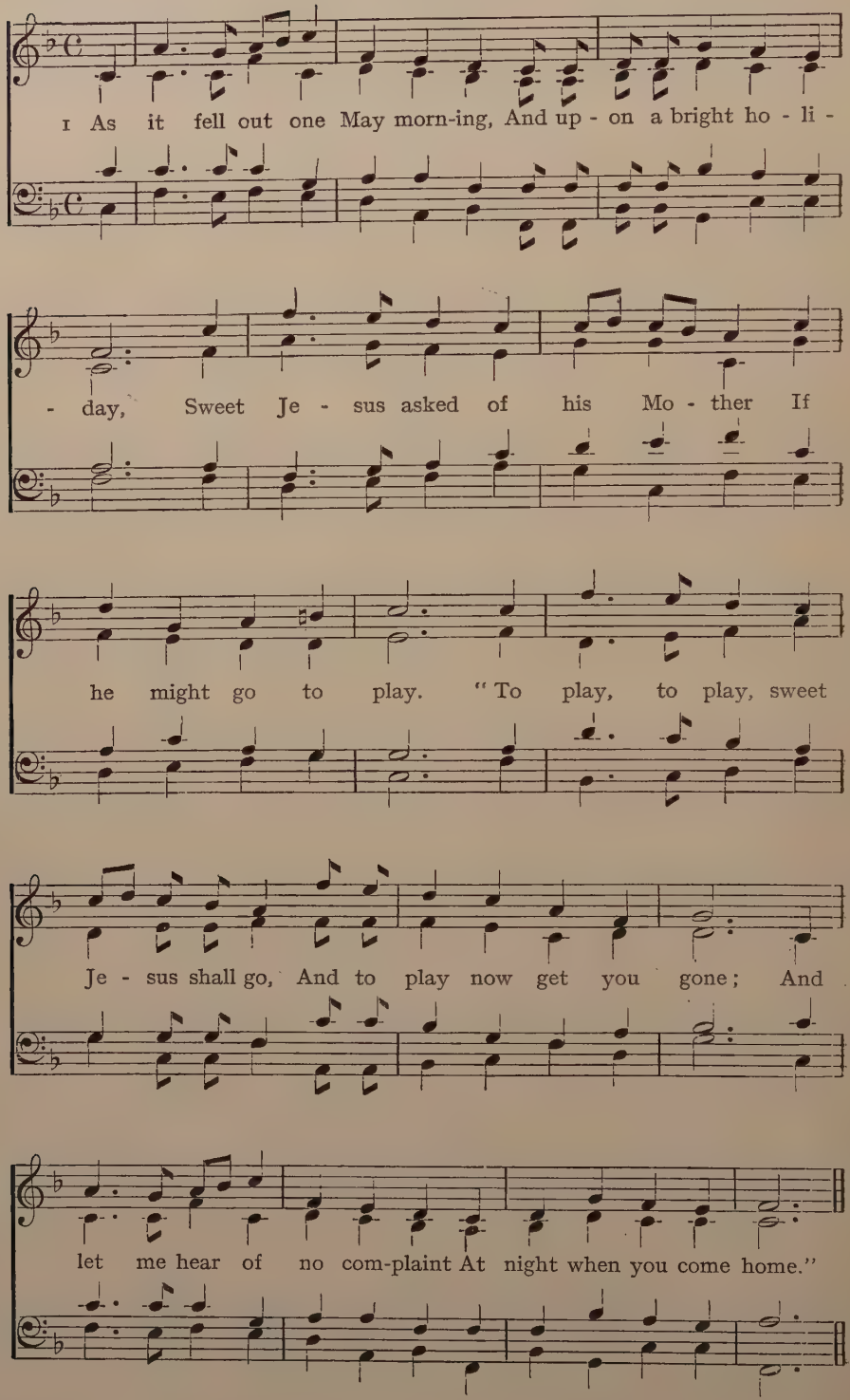
O the rising of the sun,
The running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ.
The singing in the choir.

5. The Holly bears a bark
As bitter as any gall,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
For to redeem us all:

O the rising of the sun,
The running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ,
The singing in the choir.

16 The Holy Well

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


1 As it fell out one May morn-ing, And up - on a bright ho - li -
- day, Sweet Je - sus asked of his Mo - ther If
he might go to play. "To play, to play, sweet
Je - sus shall go, And to play now get you gone; And
let me hear of no com-plaint At night when you come home."

AS it fell out one May morning,
And upon a bright holiday,
Sweet Jesus asked of his Mother
If he might go to play.
"To play, to play, sweet Jesus shall go,
And to play now get you gone;
And let me hear of no complaint
At night when you come home."

2 Sweet Jesus went down to yonder town,
As far as the holy well,
And there did see as fine children
As any tongue can tell.
He said, "God bless you every one,
And your bodies Christ save and see;
Little children, shall I play with you?
And you shall play with me."

3 But they made answer to him, "No";
They were lords' and ladies' sons,
And he was but a maiden's child,
Born in an ox's stall.
Sweet Jesus turned him round about,
And he neither laughed nor smiled,
But the tears came trickling from his eyes
Like water from the skies.

4 Sweet Jesus turned him round about,
To his Mother dear home went he,
And said, "I have been in yonder town,
As after you may see.
I have been down in yonder town,
As far as the holy well;
And there did I meet with as fine children
As any tongue can tell.

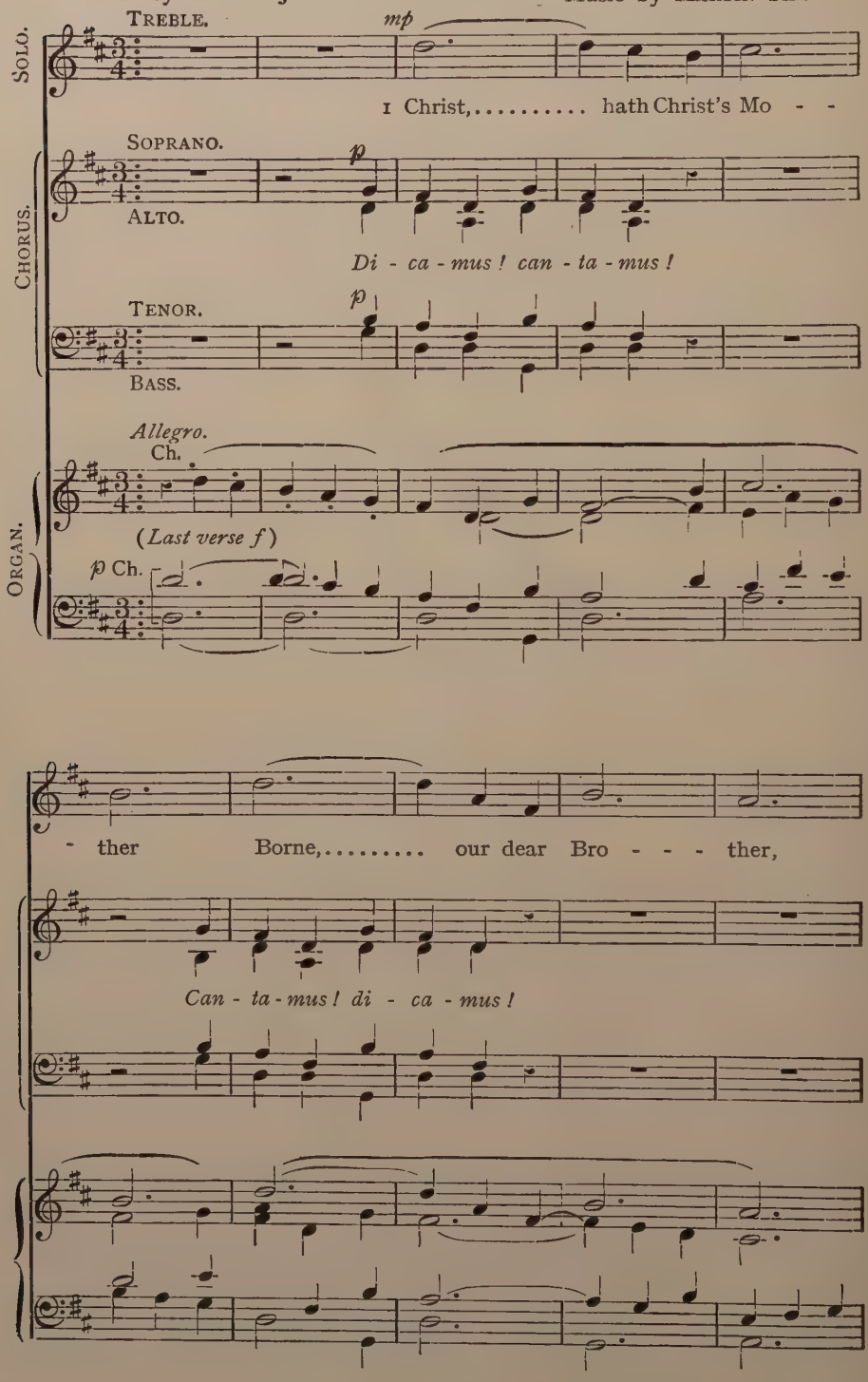
5 "And I bid God bless them every one,
And their bodies Christ save and see;
Little children, shall I play with you?
And you shall play with me.
But then they answerèd me 'No';
They were lords' and ladies' sons,
And I was but a maiden's child,
Born in an ox's stall."

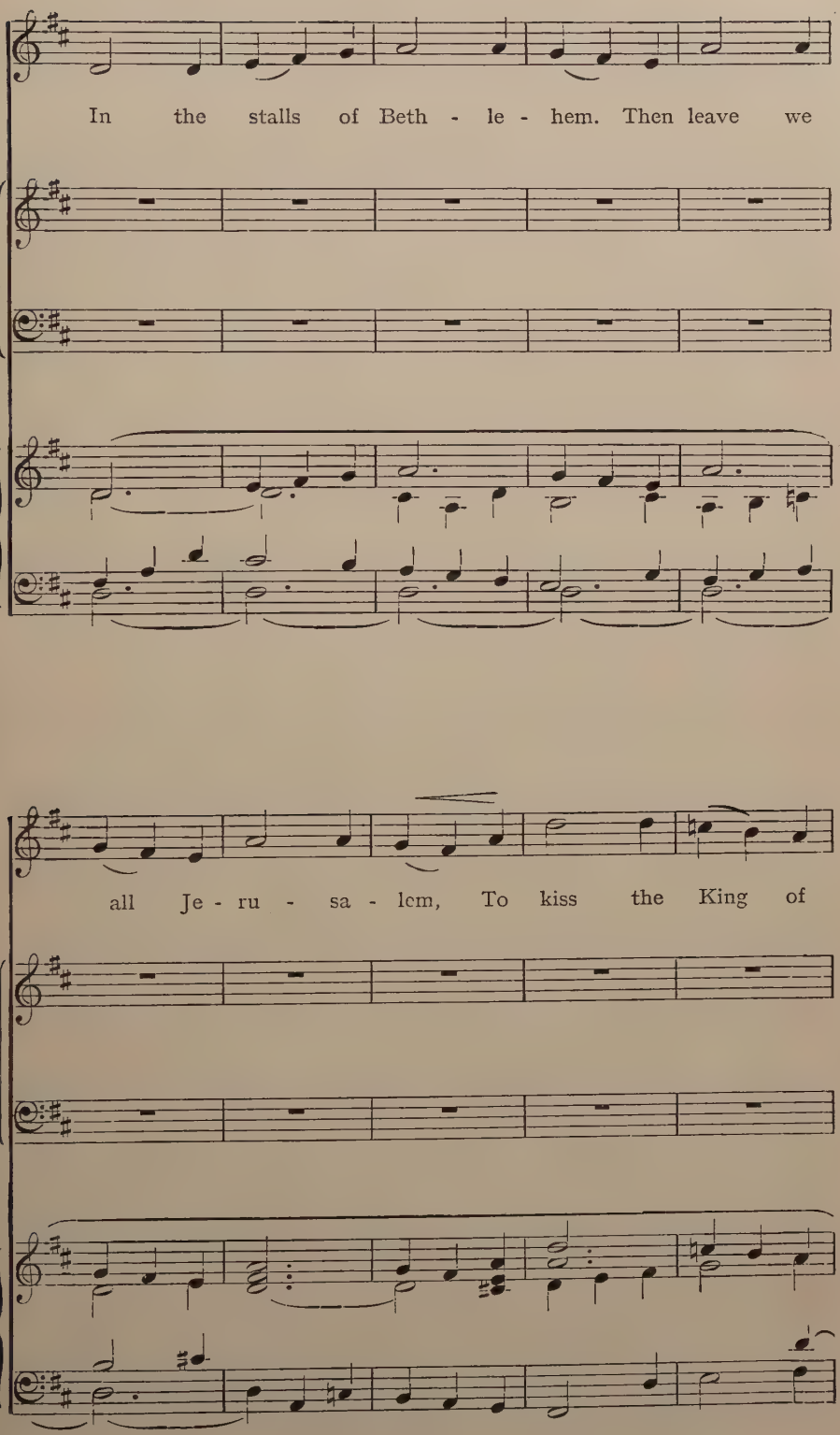
6 "Though you are but a maiden's child,
Born in an ox's stall,
Thou art the Christ, the King of Heaven,
And the Saviour of them all.
Sweet Jesus, go down into yonder town,
And as far as the holy well,
And take away those sinful souls,
And dip them deep in hell."

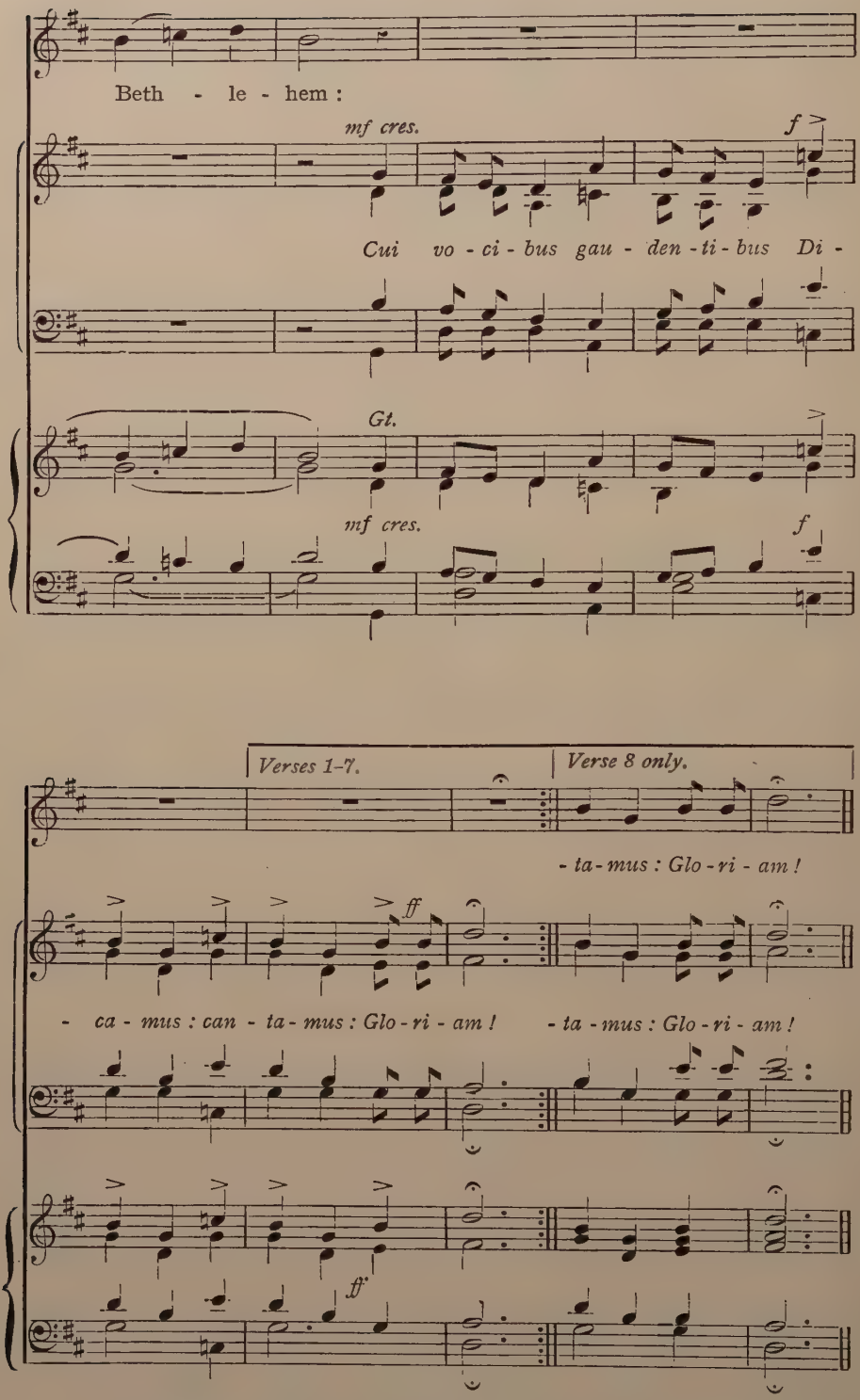
7. "Nay, nay," sweet Jesus mildly said;
"Nay, nay, that may not be,
For there are too many sinful souls
Crying out for the help of me."
O then spoke the Angel Gabriel,
Upon one sure set steven,
"Although you are but a maiden's child,
You are the King of Heaven."

17 Hominum Laudes

Words by Lionel Johnson. Music by Martin Shaw.




In the stalls of Beth - le - hem. Then leave we
all Je - ru - sa - lem, To kiss the King of


Beth - le - hem :
mf cres.
f
Cui vo - ci - bus gau - den - ti - bus Di -
Gt.
mf cres.
f
Verses 1-7.
Verse 8 only.
- ta - mus : Glo - ri - am !
ff
- ca - mus : can - ta - mus : Glo - ri - am !
- ta - mus : Glo - ri - am !
ff

In the last verse all sing the tune in unison, with the exception of the last word.

CHRIST, hath Christ's Mother
Dicamus ! cantamus !
Borne, our dear Brother,
Cantamus ! dicamus !
In the stalls of Bethlehem.
Then leave we all Jerusalem,
To kiss the King of Bethlehem :

Cui vocibus gaudentibus
Dicamus : cantamus :
Gloriam !

2 Come from the city !
Dicamus ! cantamus !
God hath had pity
Cantamus ! dicamus !
On his people Israel.
And pity will he have, as well,
On Gentiles beyond Israel :

Nunc vocibus gaudentibus
Dicamus : cantamus :
Gloriam !

3 Snows the land cover :
Dicamus ! cantamus !
Lo comes our Lover ;
Cantamus ! dicamus !
Comes a glory, comes a light :
Gold on snow, and gold on night ;
Glory from the Light of Light !

Quin vocibus gaudentibus
Dicamus : cantamus :
Gloriam !

4 Laud in the highest !
Dicamus ! cantamus !
Now, Death ! thou diest :
Cantamus ! dicamus !
Now God goeth to his grave,
Us, dead and dying men to save,
And bring the captives from the grave.

Quo vocibus gaudentibus
Dicamus : cantamus :
Gloriam !

5 *Praise to the Father !
Dicamus ! cantamus !
Now will he gather
Cantamus ! dicamus !
Us, his helpless little ones,
From endless Death's dominions ;
Us, God our Father's little ones :

Cui vocibus gaudentibus
Dicamus : cantamus :
Gloriam !

6 * Praise to Son Jesus !
Dicamus ! cantamus !
Him, whose Cross frees us,
Cantamus ! dicamus !
From the cruel hand of sin.
Now first to him our songs begin,
Since now our hearts have done with sin :

Sic vocibus gaudentibus
Dicamus : cantamus :
Gloriam !

7 *Praise Mary Mother—
Dicamus ! cantamus !
Mary, none other,
Cantamus ! dicamus !
Welcome might the Holy Ghost :
Because her heart was pure the most.
Now praise be to the Holy Ghost !

Cui vocibus gaudentibus
Dicamus : cantamus :
Gloriam !

8.*Praise, praise, and praises,
Dicamus ! cantamus !
Earth with Heaven raises,
Cantamus ! dicamus !
To the glorious Trinity.
Sons of new morning, mingle we,
With morning stars, our melody :

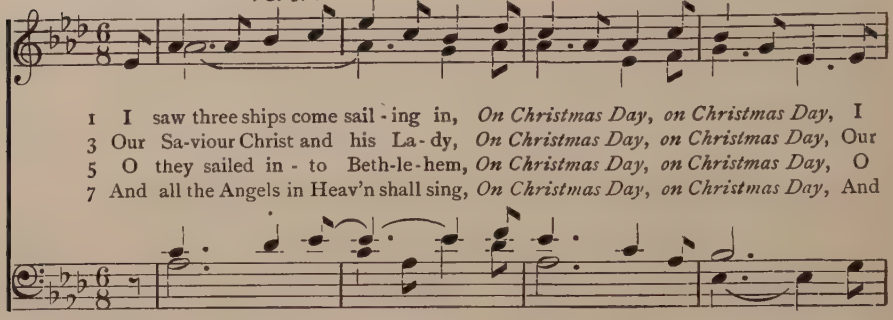
Et vocibus gaudentibus
Dicamus : cantamus :
Gloriam !

18 I Saw Three Ships

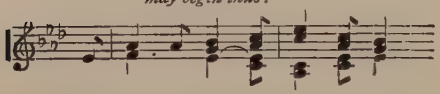
Words Traditional.

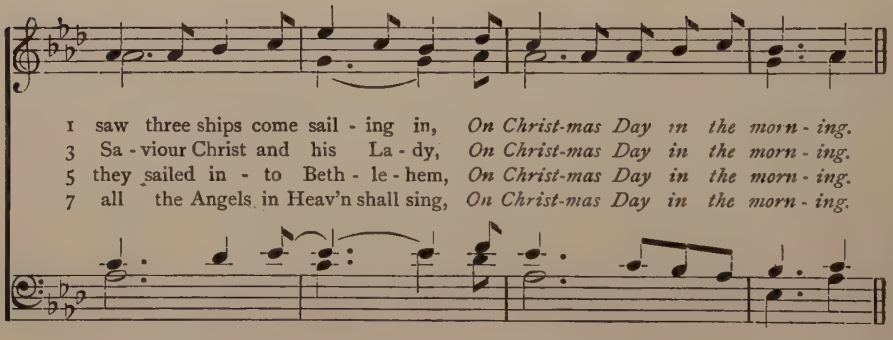
Tune Traditional.

SOLO. Verses 1, 3, 5, 7.

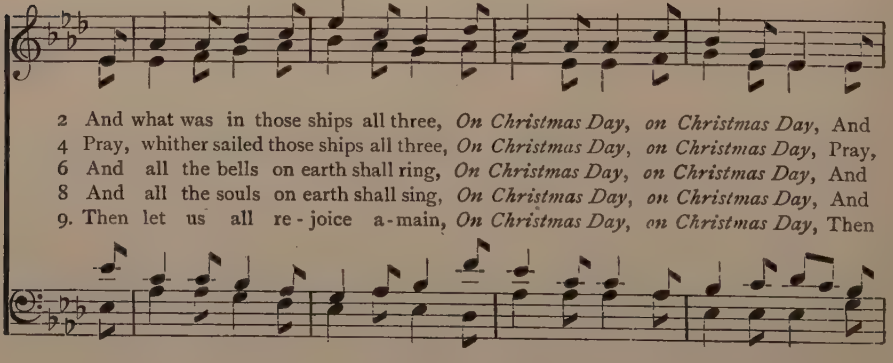

1 I saw three ships come sail - ing in, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, I
3 Our Sa-viour Christ and his La - dy, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, Our
5 O they sailed in - to Beth-le-hem, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, O
7 And all the Angels in Heav'n shall sing, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, And

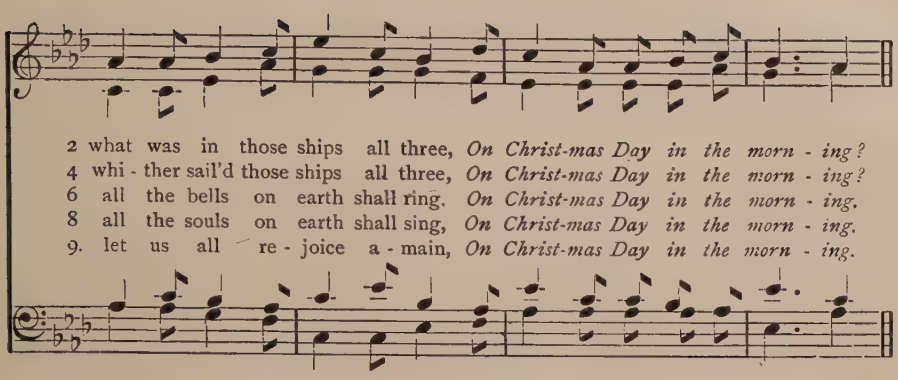
For the sake of variety, verses 3, 5, & 7 may begin thus:—




1 saw three ships come sail - ing in, On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing.
3 Sa - viour Christ and his La - dy, On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing.
5 they sailed in - to Beth - le - hem, On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing.
7 all the Angels in Heav'n shall sing, On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing.

CHORUS. Verses 2, 4, 6, 8. (*Last verse Unison.*)


2 And what was in those ships all three, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, And
4 Pray, whither sailed those ships all three, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, Pray,
6 And all the bells on earth shall ring, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, And
8 And all the souls on earth shall sing, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, And
9. Then let us all re - joice a - main, On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day, Then


2 what was in those ships all three, On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing?
4 whi - ther sail'd those ships all three, On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing?
6 all the bells on earth shall ring. On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing.
8 all the souls on earth shall sing, On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing.
9. let us all re - joice a - main, On Christ-mas Day in the morn - ing.

I SAW three ships come sailing in,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
I saw three ships come sailing in,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

2 And what was in those ships all three,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And what was in those ships all three,
On Christmas Day in the morning?

3 Our Saviour Christ and his Ladie,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
Our Saviour Christ and his Ladie,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

4 Pray, whither sailed those ships all three,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
Pray, whither sailed those ships all three,
On Christmas Day in the morning?

5 O they sailed into Bethlehem,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
O they sailed into Bethlehem,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

6 And all the bells on earth shall ring,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And all the bells on earth shall ring,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

7 And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

8 And all the souls on earth shall sing,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And all the souls on earth shall sing,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

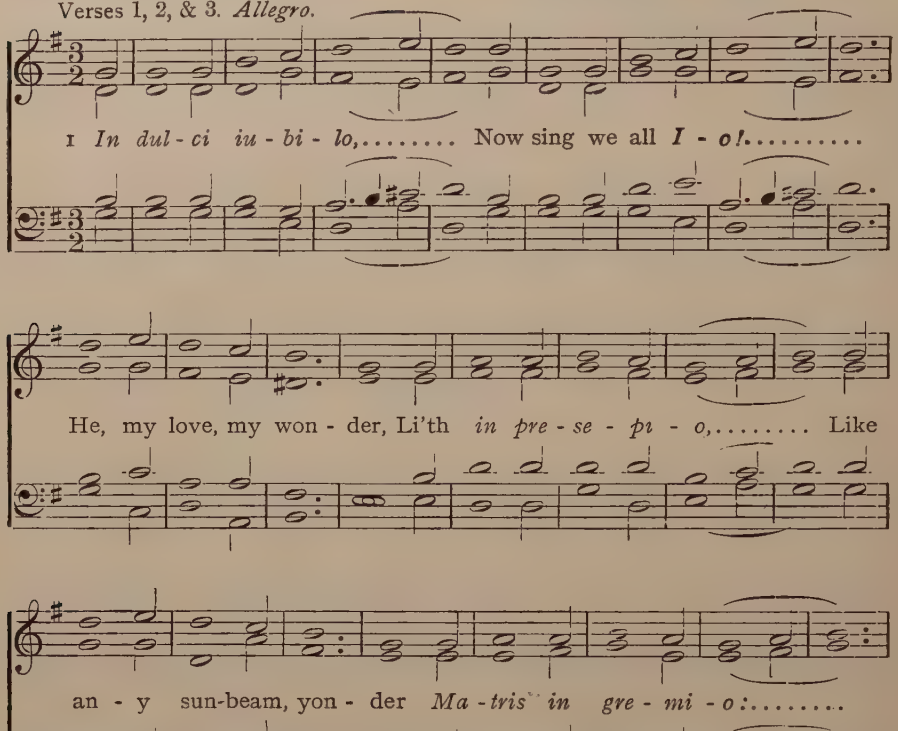
9. Then let us all rejoice amain,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
Then let us all rejoice amain,
On Christmas Day in the morning.

19 In Dulci Jubilo

Words translated by
THE REV. G. R. WOODWARD.

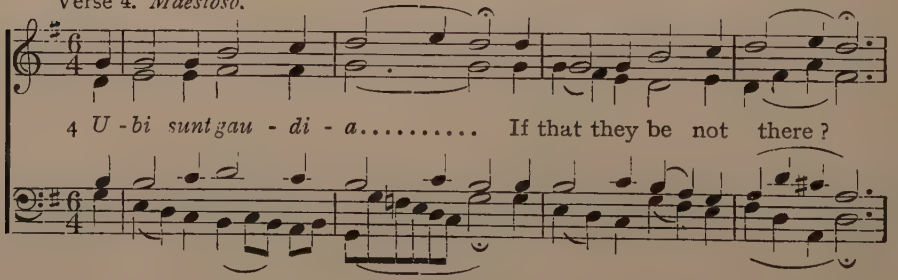
Tune—Old German. Setting by
BARTHOLOMEW GESIUS, 1601.

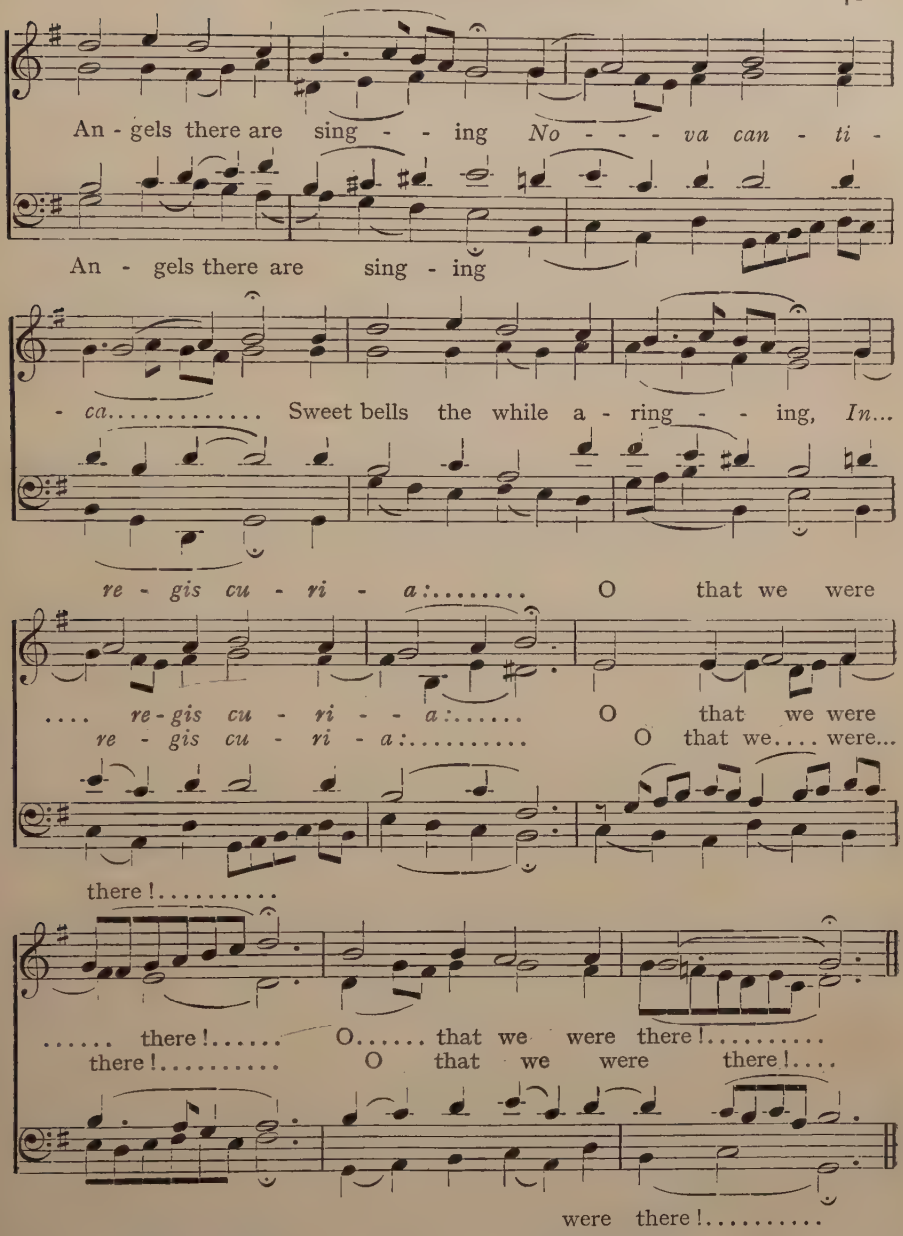
Verses 1, 2, & 3. *Allegro.*


1 In dul - ci iu - bi - lo,..... Now sing we all I - o!.....
He, my love, my won - der, Li'th in pre - se - pi - o,..... Like
an - y sun-beam, yon - der Ma - tris in gre - mi - o:.....
Al - pha es et O,..... Al - pha es et O.

Setting by J. S. BACH.

Verse 4. *Maestoso.*




An - gels there are sing - - ing No - - - va can - ti -
An - gels there are sing - ing
- ca..... Sweet bells the while a - ring - - ing, In...
re - gis cu - ri - a:..... O that we were
.... re - gis cu - ri - - a:..... O that we were
re - gis cu - ri - a:..... O that we.... were...
there!.....
..... there!..... O..... that we were there!.....
there!..... O that we were there!....
were there!.....

IN dulci iubilo
Now sing we all *Io!*
He, my love, my wonder,
Lieth *in presepio,*
Like any sunbeam, yonder
Matris in gremio
Alpha es et O.

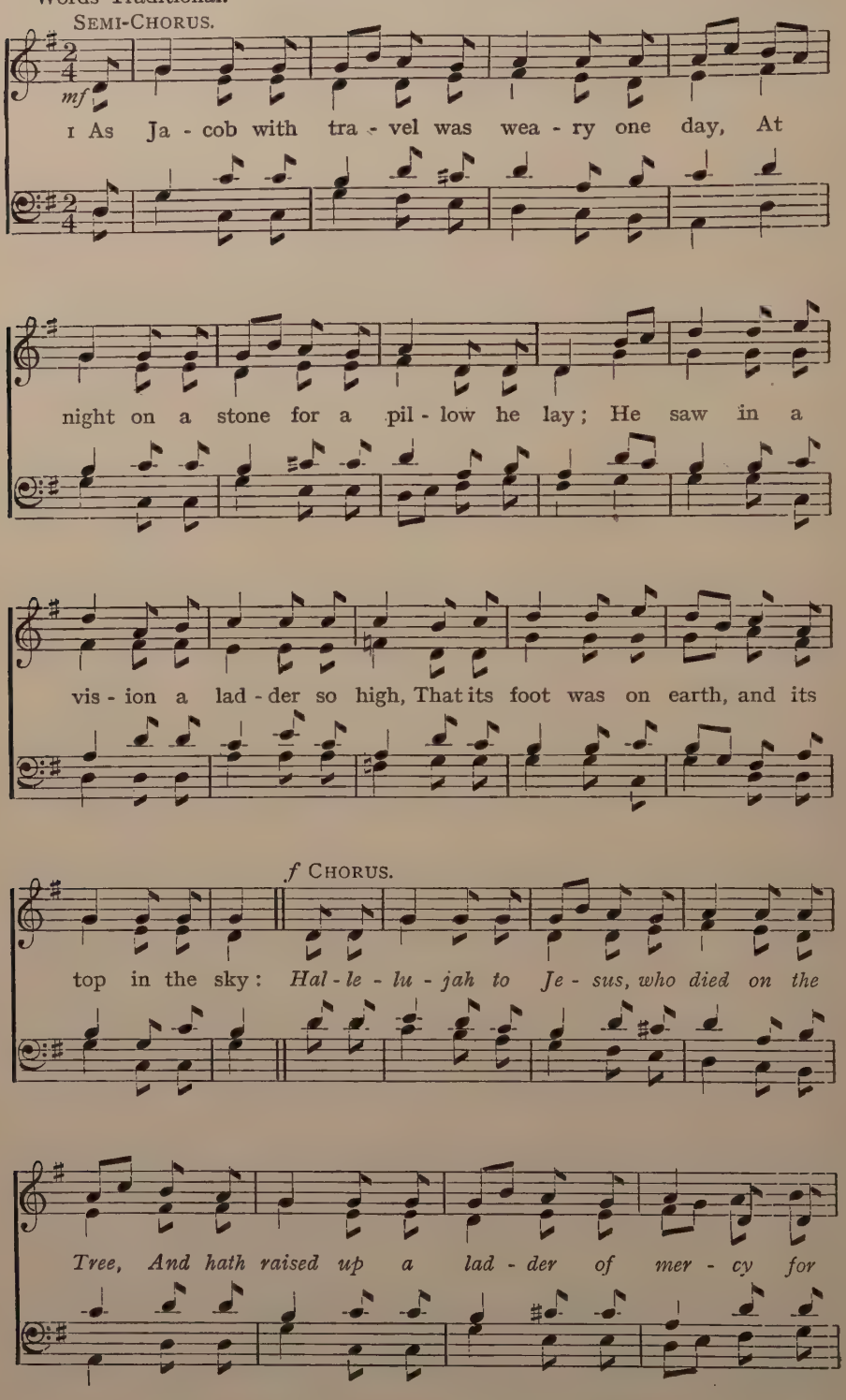
2 *O Jesu parvule,*
I yearn for thee alway:
Listen to my ditty,
O puer optime,
Have pity on me, pity:
O princeps glorie,
Trahe me post te.

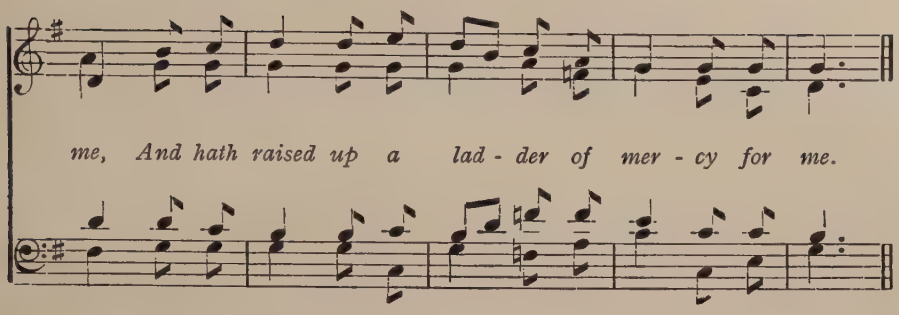
3 *O Patris Charitas,*
O Nati lenitas;
All with us was over,
Per nostra crimina:
But then thou didst recover
Celorum gaudia:
O that we were there!

4. *Ubi sunt gaudia*
If that they be not there?
Angels there are singing
Nova cantica.
Sweet bells the while a-ringing
In regis curia:
O that we were there!

20 Jacob's Ladder

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


SEMI-CHORUS.
mf
1 As Ja - cob with tra - vel was wea - ry one day, At
night on a stone for a pil - low he lay; He saw in a
vis - ion a lad - der so high, That its foot was on earth, and its
f CHORUS.
top in the sky: Hal - le - lu - jah to Je - sus, who died on the
Tree, And hath raised up a lad - der of mer - cy for



AS Jacob with travel was weary one day,
At night on a stone for a pillow he lay;
He saw in a vision a ladder so high,
That its foot was on earth, and its top in the sky:

Hallelujah to Jesus, who died on the Tree,
And hath raised up a ladder of mercy for me.

2 This ladder is long, it is strong and well made,
Has stood hundreds of years and is not yet decayed;
Many millions have climbed it and reached Sion's hill,
And thousands by faith are climbing it still:

Hallelujah to Jesus, who died on the Tree,
And hath raised up a ladder of mercy for me.

3 Come let us ascend: all may climb it who will;
For the Angels of Jacob are guarding it still:
And remember each step, that by faith we pass o'er,
Some prophet or martyr hath trod it before:

Hallelujah to Jesus, who died on the Tree,
And hath raised up a ladder of mercy for me.

4. And when we arrive at the haven of rest
We shall hear the glad words "Come up hither, ye blest
Here are regions of light, here are mansions of bliss:"
O who would not climb such a ladder as this?

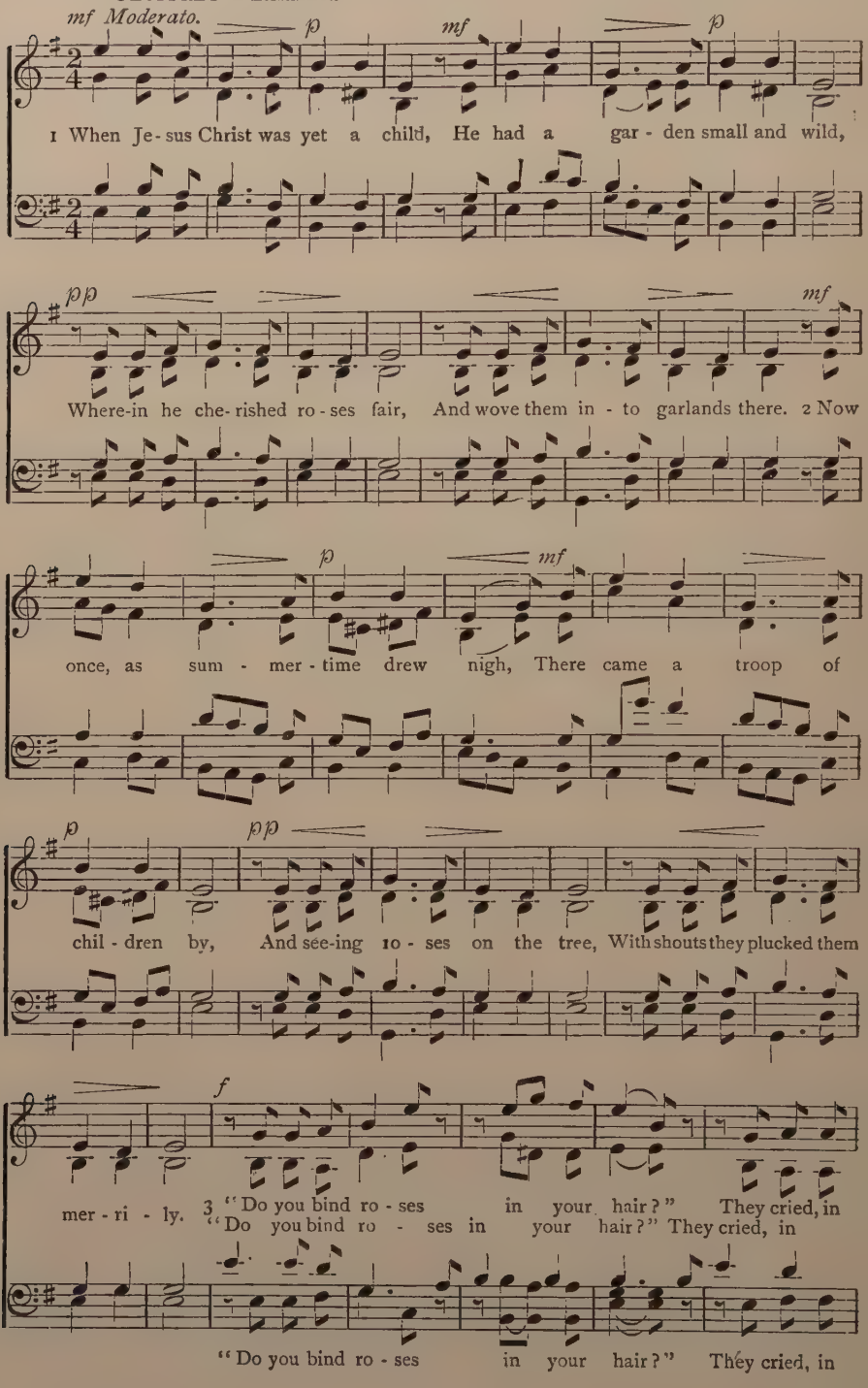
Hallelujah to Jesus, who died on the Tree,
And hath raised up a ladder of mercy for me.

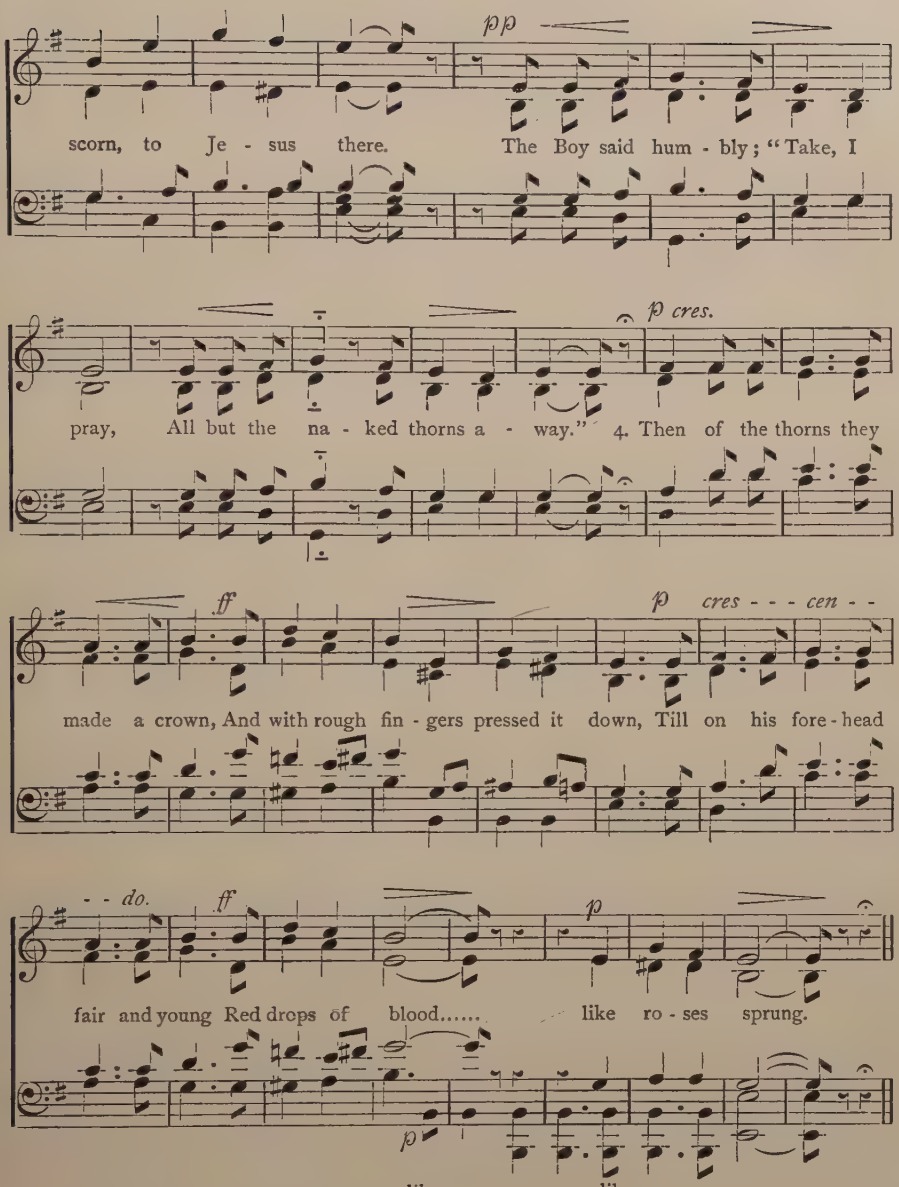
21 Legend

THE CROWN OF ROSES

Words translated from the Russian by GEOFFREY DEARMER.

Tune and Setting by P. TSCHAIKOWSKY.


mf Moderato.
p
mf
p
1 When Je-sus Christ was yet a child, He had a gar-den small and wild,
pp
mf
Where-in he che-rished ro-ses fair, And wove them in-to garlands there. 2 Now
p
mf
once, as sum-mer-time drew nigh, There came a troop of
p
pp
chil-dren by, And see-ing ro-ses on the tree, With shouts they plucked them
f
mer-ri-ly. 3 "Do you bind ro-ses in your hair?" They cried, in
"Do you bind ro-ses in your hair?" They cried, in
"Do you bind ro-ses in your hair?" They cried, in


pp
scorn, to Je - sus there. The Boy said hum - bly; "Take, I
p cres.
pray, All but the na - ked thorns a - way." 4. Then of the thorns they
ff
p cres - - - cen - -
made a crown, And with rough fin - gers pressed it down, Till on his fore - head
- - do. ff
p
fair and young Red drops of blood..... like ro - ses sprung.
p
like ro - ses sprung, like ro - ses sprung.

WHEN Jesus Christ was yet a child
He had a garden small and wild,
Wherein he cherished roses fair,
And wove them into garlands there.

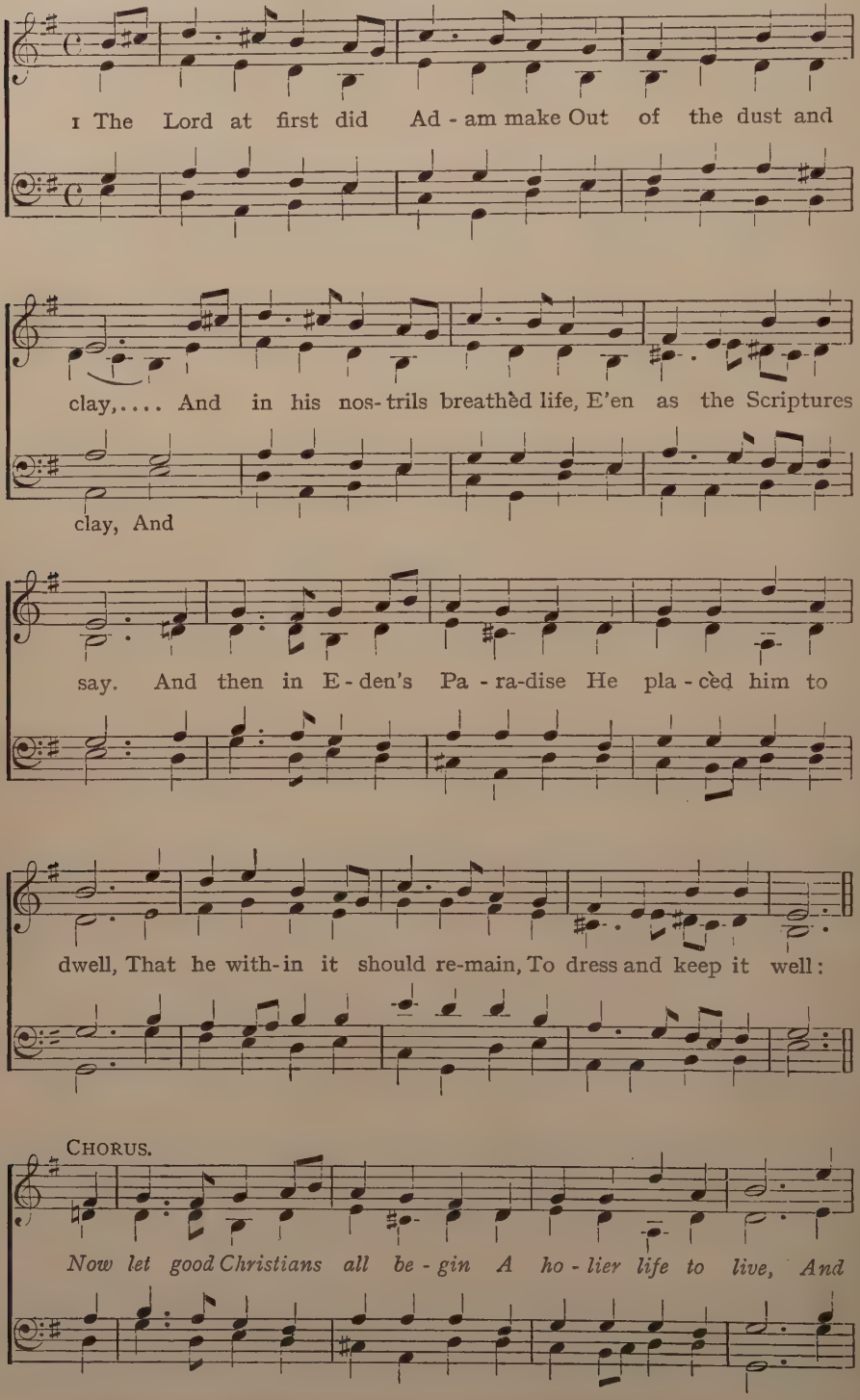
2 Now once, as summer-time drew nigh,
There came a troop of children by,
And seeing roses on the tree,
With shouts they plucked them merrily.

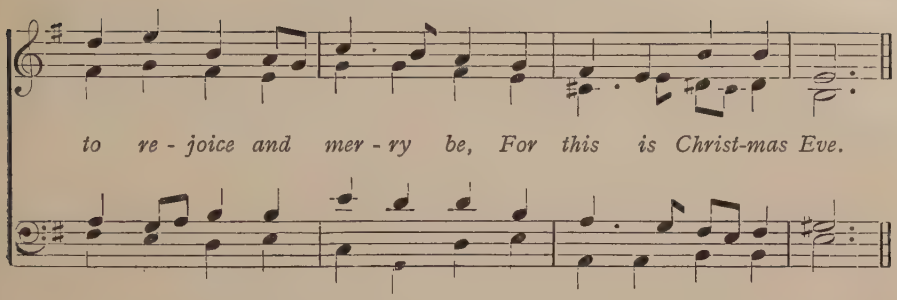
3 "Do you bind roses in your hair?"
They cried, in scorn, to Jesus there.
The Boy said humbly; "Take, I pray,
All but the naked thorns away."

4. Then of the thorns they made a crown,
And with rough fingers pressed it down
Till on his forehead fair and young
Red drops of blood like roses sprung.

22 First Tune The Lord at First did Adam Make

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


1 The Lord at first did Ad - am make Out of the dust and
clay,..... And in his nos-trils breathèd life, E'en as the Scriptures
clay, And
say. And then in E - den's Pa - ra-dise He pla - cèd him to
dwell, That he with-in it should re-main, To dress and keep it well:
CHORUS.
Now let good Christians all be - gin A ho - lier life to live, And



THE Lord at first did Adam make
Out of the dust and clay,
And in his nostrils breathèd life,
E'en as the Scriptures say.
And then in Eden's Paradise
He placèd him to dwell,
That he within it should remain,
To dress and keep it well :

Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

2 And thus within the garden he
Was set, therein to stay ;
And in commandment unto him
These words the Lord did say :
"The fruit which in the garden grows
To thee shall be for meat,
Except the tree in midst thereof,
Of which thou shalt not eat :

Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

3 "For in the day thou shalt it touch,
Or do it then come nigh,
And if that thou dost eat thereof,
Then thou shalt surely die."
But Adam he did take no heed
Unto that only thing,
But did transgress God's holy law,
And so was wrapt in sin :

Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

4 Now mark the goodness of the Lord
Which he to mankind bore ;
His mercy soon he did extend,
Lost man for to restore :
And therefore to redeem our souls
From death and hellish thrall,
He said his own dear Son should be
The Saviour of us all :

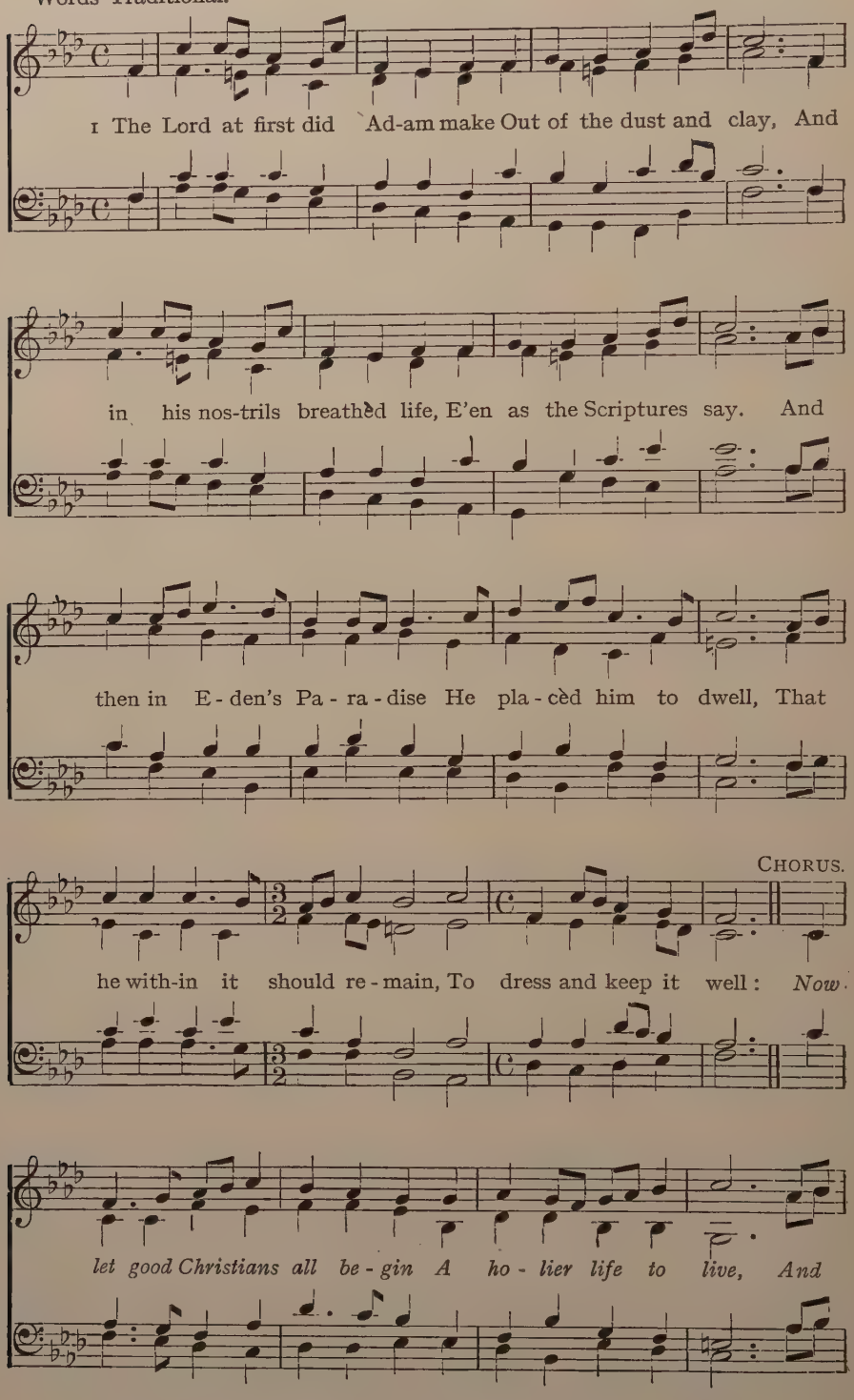
Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

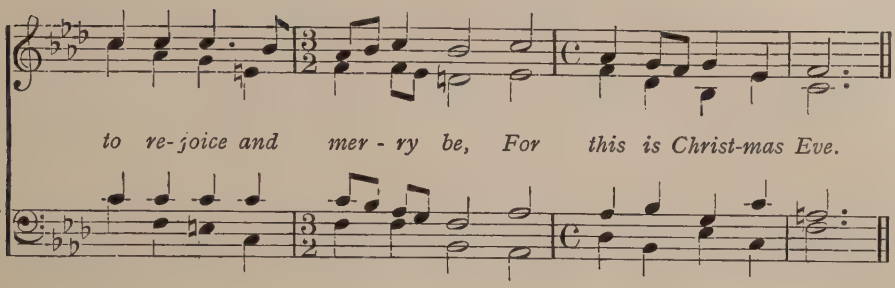
5. And now the tide is nigh at hand,
In which our Saviour came ;
Let us rejoice and merry be
In keeping of the same :
Let's feed the poor and hungry souls,
And such as do it crave ;
And when we die, in heaven we
Our sure reward shall have :

Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

22 Second Tune The Lord at First did Adam Make

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


1 The Lord at first did Ad-am make Out of the dust and clay, And
in his nos-trils breathèd life, E'en as the Scriptures say. And
then in E-den's Pa-ra-dise He pla-cèd him to dwell, That
CHORUS.
he with-in it should re-main, To dress and keep it well: Now
let good Christians all be-gin A ho-lier life to live, And



THE Lord at first did Adam make
Out of the dust and clay,
And in his nostrils breathèd life,
E'en as the Scriptures say.
And then in Eden's Paradise
He placèd him to dwell,
That he within it should remain,
To dress and keep it well :

Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

2 And thus within the garden he
Was set, therein to stay ;
And in commandment unto him
These words the Lord did say :
" The fruit which in the garden grows
To thee shall be for meat,
Except the tree in midst thereof,
Of which thou shalt not eat :

Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

3 " For in the day thou shalt it touch,
Or do it then come nigh,
And if that thou dost eat thereof,
Then thou shalt surely die."
But Adam he did take no heed
Unto that only thing,
But did transgress God's holy law,
And so was wrapt in sin :

Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

4 Now mark the goodness of the Lord
Which he to mankind bore ;
His mercy soon he did extend,
Lost man for to restore :
And therefore to redeem our souls
From death and hellish thrall,
He said his own dear Son should be
The Saviour of us all :

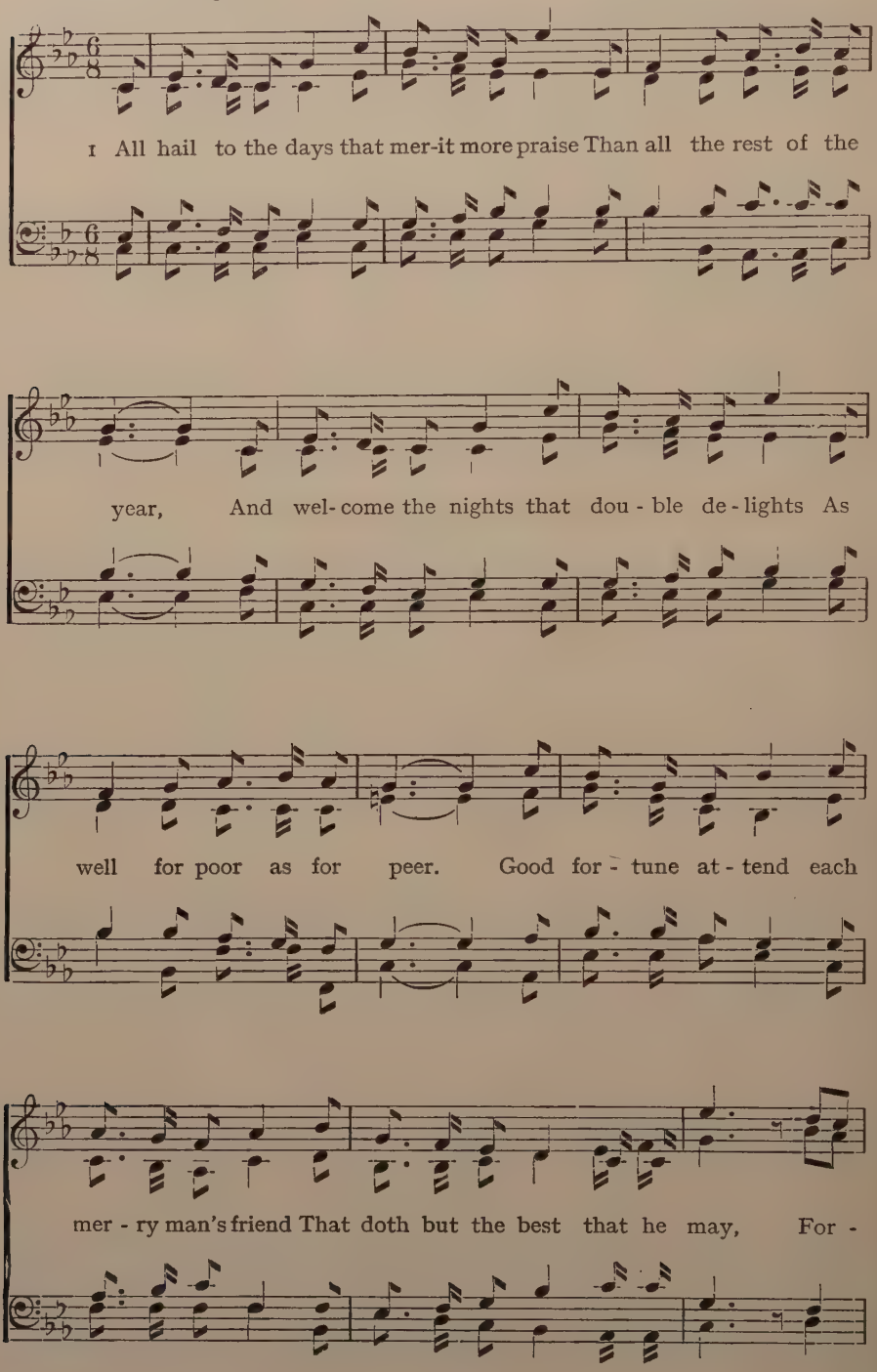
Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

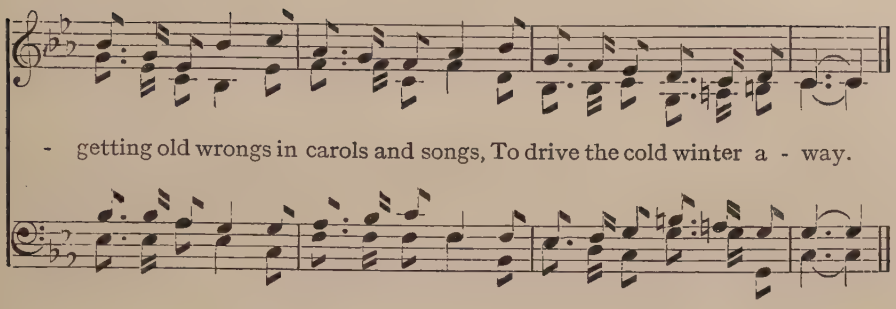
5. And now the tide is nigh at hand,
In which our Saviour came ;
Let us rejoice and merry be
In keeping of the same :
Let's feed the poor and hungry souls,
And such as do it crave ;
And when we die, in heaven we
Our sure reward shall have :

Now let good Christians all begin
A holier life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
For this is Christmas Eve.

23 The Praise of Christmas

Words—Old English. Tune—17th Century.


1 All hail to the days that mer-it more praise Than all the rest of the
year, And wel-come the nights that dou-ble de-lights As
well for poor as for peer. Good for-tune at-tend each
mer-ry man's friend That doth but the best that he may, For-



ALL hail to the days that merit more praise
Than all the rest of the year,
And welcome the nights that double delights
As well for poor as for peer.
Good fortune attend each merry man's friend
That doth but the best that he may,
Forgetting old wrongs in carols and songs,
To drive the cold winter away.

2 This time of the year is spent in good cheer,
And neighbours together do meet,
To sit by the fire, with friendly desire,
Each other in love for to greet.
Old grudges forgot, as put in the pot,
And sorrows aside they all lay;
The old and the young do carol this song,
To drive the cold winter away.

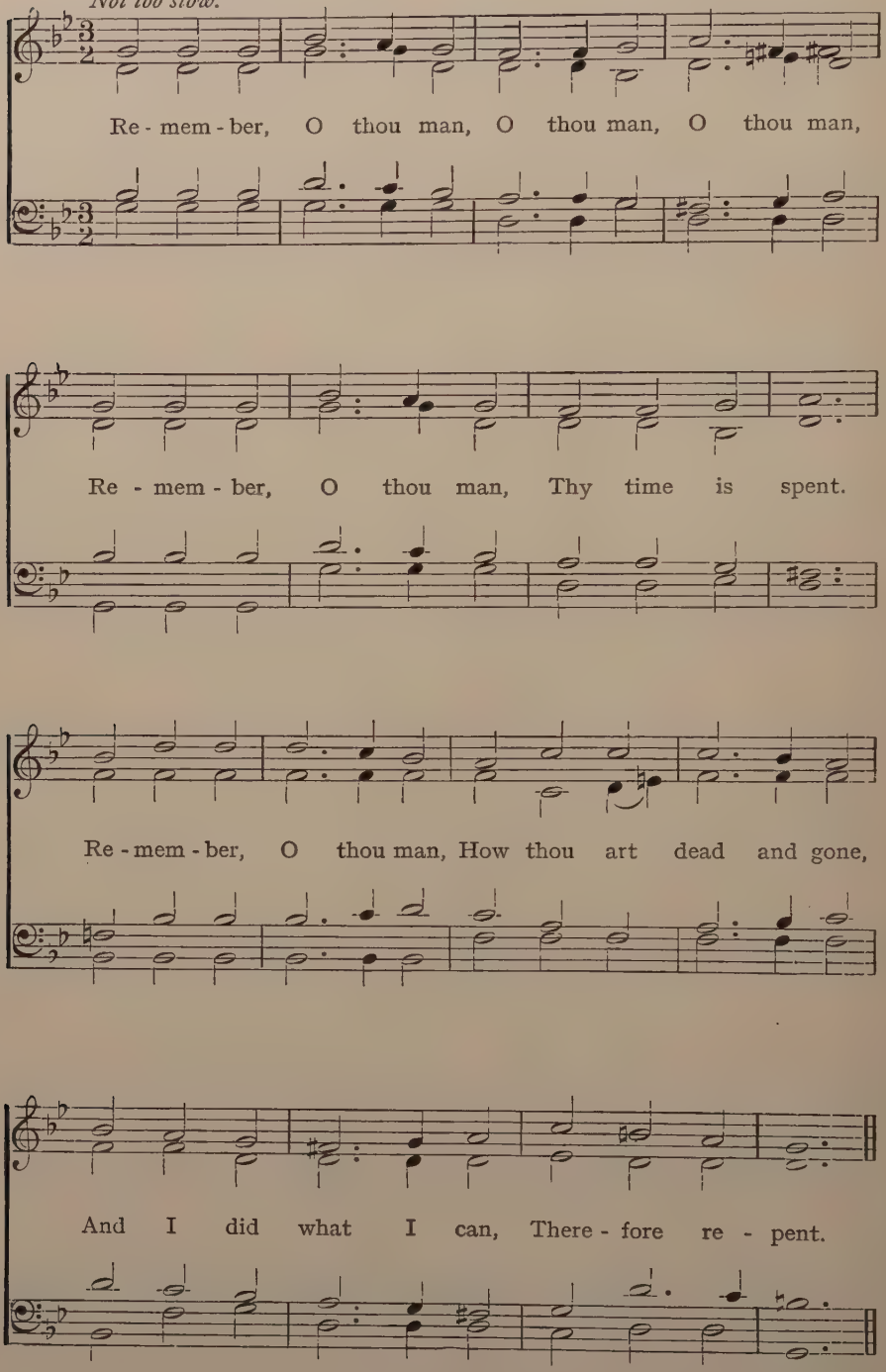
3. When old Christmas-tide comes in like a bride,
With ivy and green holly clad,
Twelve days in the year much mirth and good cheer
In every household is had.
The countryman's guise is then to devise
Some gambols of Christmas play,
Where every young man does the best that he can
To drive the cold winter away.

24 Remember, O Thou Man

Words and Tune from "Melismata," 1611.

Setting by Thos. Ravenscroft.

Not too slow.


Re - mem - ber, O thou man, O thou man, O thou man,
Re - mem - ber, O thou man, Thy time is spent.
Re - mem - ber, O thou man, How thou art dead and gone,
And I did what I can, There - fore re - pent.

REMEMBER, O thou man,
O thou man, O thou man,
Remember, O thou man,
Thy time is spent:
Remember, O thou man,
How thou art dead and gone,
And I did what I can,
Therefore repent.

2 The Angels all did sing,
O thou man, O thou man,
The Angels all did sing,
Upon the hill:
The Angels all did sing
Praise to our Heavenly King,
And peace to man living,
With a good will.

3 To Bethlem did they go,
O thou man, O thou man,
To Bethlem did they go,
The shepherds three:
To Bethlem did they go,
To see where it were so,
If Christ were born or no
To set men free.

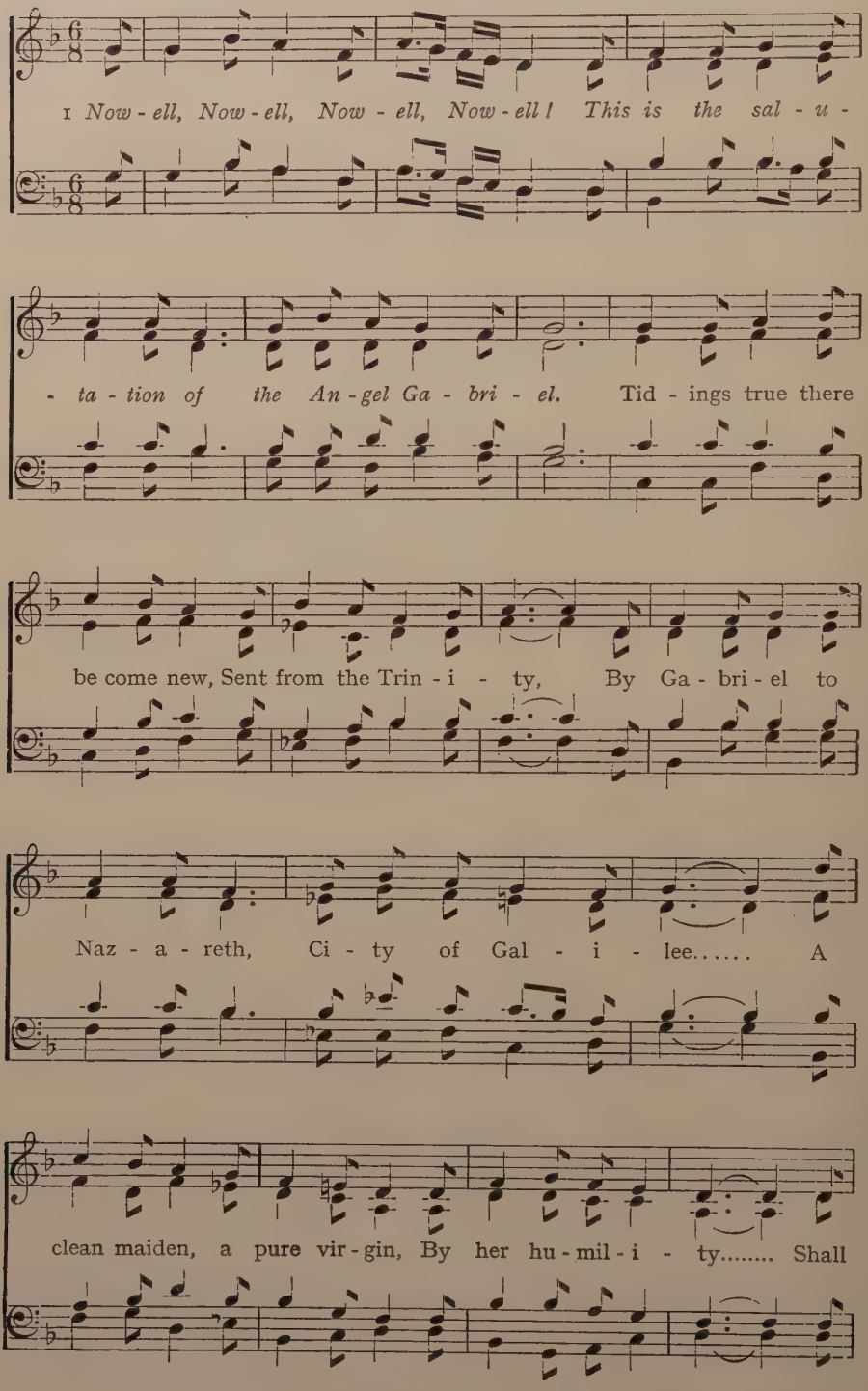
4 In Bethlem he was born,
O thou man, O thou man,
In Bethlem he was born,
For mankind's sake:
In Bethlem he was born
For us that were forlorn,
And therefore took no scorn,
Our flesh to take.

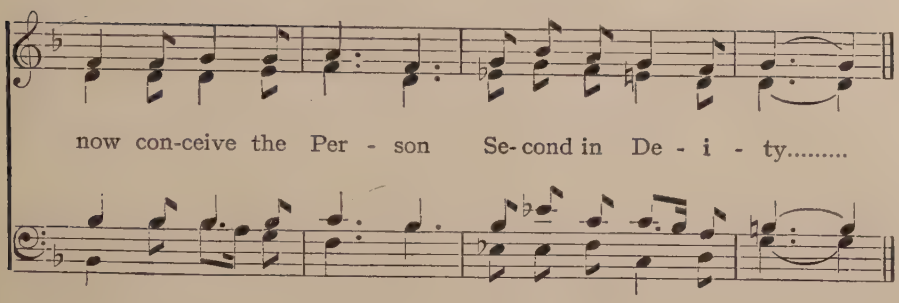
5. Give thanks to God alway,
O thou man, O thou man,
Give thanks to God alway,
Most joyfully:
Give thanks to God alway
For this our happy day,
Let all men sing and say,
Holy, holy.

25 The Salutation Carol

Words—Old English.

Tune—Old English.
Setting by R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS.


1 Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell! This is the sal - u -
- ta - tion of the An - gel Ga - bri - el. Tid - ings true there
be come new, Sent from the Trin - i - ty, By Ga - bri - el to
Naz - a - reth, Ci - ty of Gal - i - lee..... A
clean maiden, a pure vir - gin, By her hu - mil - i - ty..... Shall



NOWELL, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!
This is the salutation of the Angel Gabriel.
Tidings true there be come new,
Sent from the Trinity
By Gabriel to Nazareth,
City of Galilee.
A clean maidèn, a pure virgìn,
By her humility
Shall now conceive the Person
Second in Deity.

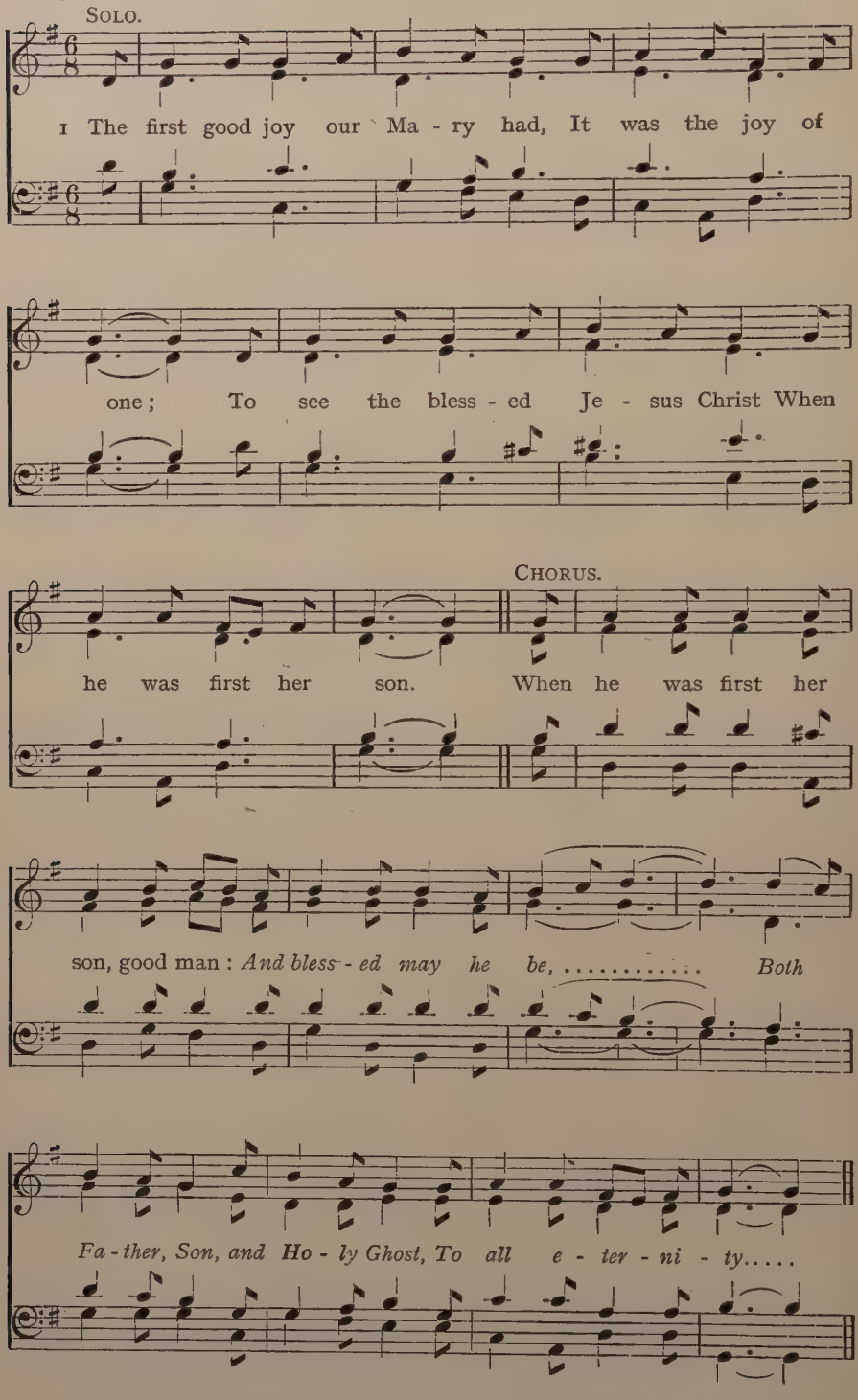
2 When that he presented was
Before her fair visàge,
In most demure and goodly wise
He did to her homàge;
And said, "Ladỳ, from heaven so high,
That Lordés heritage,
For he of thee now born will be,
I'm sent on his messàge.

3 "Hail, Virgìn celestiàl,
The meek'st that ever was!
Hail, temple of the Deity!
Hail, mirror of all grace!
Hail, Virgin pure! I thee ensure,
Within a little space
Thou shalt conceive, and him receive
That shall bring great solàce."

4. Then bespake the Maid again
And answered womanly,
"Whate'er my Lord commandeth me
I will obey trulỳ."
With "*Ecce sum humillima*
Ancilla Domini;
Secundum verbum tuum,"
She said, "*Fiat mihi.*"

26 The Seven Joys of Mary

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


SOLO.
1 The first good joy our Ma - ry had, It was the joy of
one; To see the bless - ed Je - sus Christ When
CHORUS.
he was first her son. When he was first her
son, good man: And bless - ed may he be, ... Both
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, To all e - ter - ni - ty.....

THE first good joy our Mary had,
It was the joy of one;
To see the blessed Jesus Christ
When he was first her son.
When he was first her son, good man:
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

2 The next good joy our Mary had,
It was the joy of two;
To see her own son Jesus Christ
To make the lame to go.
To make the lame to go, good man:
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

3 The next good joy our Mary had,
It was the joy of three;
To see her own son Jesus Christ
To make the blind to see.
To make the blind to see, good man:
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

4 The next good joy our Mary had,
It was the joy of four;
To see her own son Jesus Christ
To read the Bible o'er.
To read the Bible o'er, good man:
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

5 The next good joy our Mary had,
It was the joy of five;
To see her own son Jesus Christ
To raise the dead alive.
To raise the dead alive, good man:
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

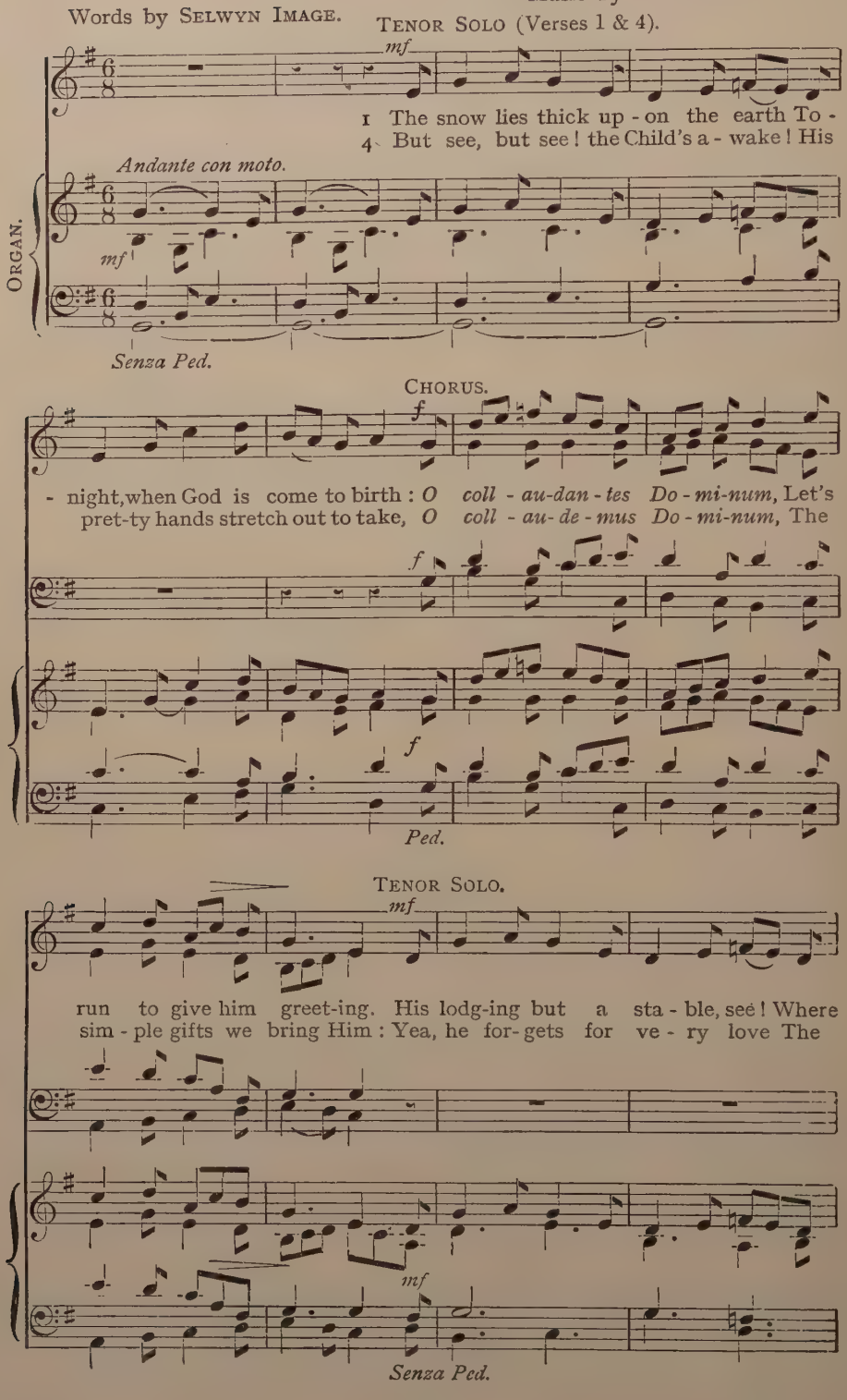
6 The next good joy our Mary had,
It was the joy of six;
To see her own son Jesus Christ
To bear the Crucifix.
To bear the Crucifix, good man:
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

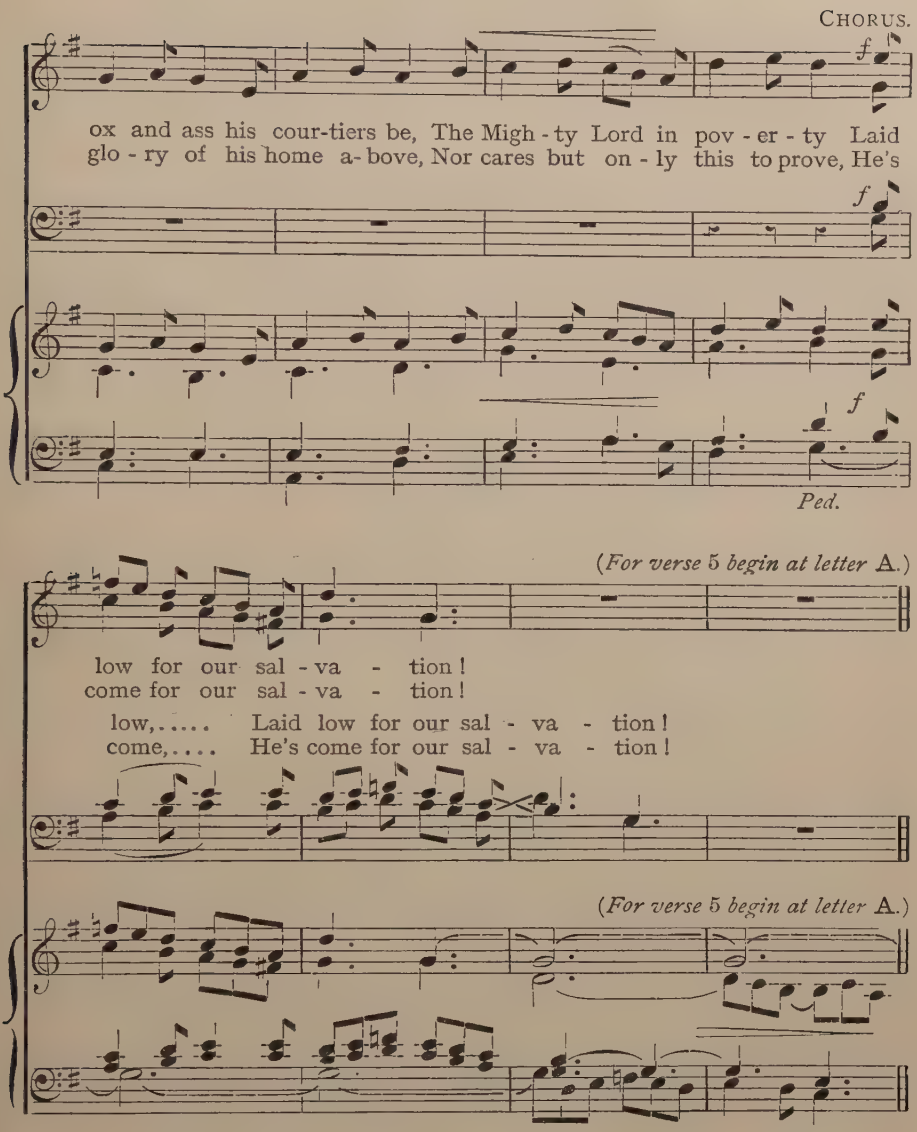
7. The next good joy our Mary had,
It was the joy of seven;
To see her own son Jesus Christ
To wear the Crown of heaven.
To wear the Crown of heaven, good man:
And blessed may he be,
Both Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
To all eternity.

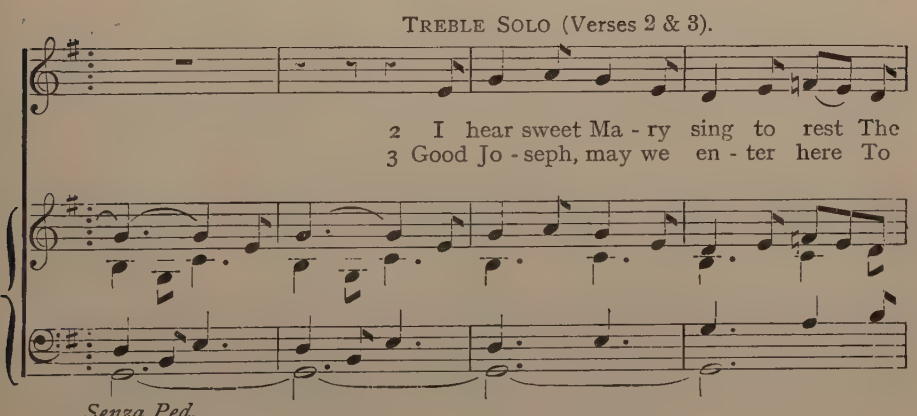
27 The Snow Lies Thick

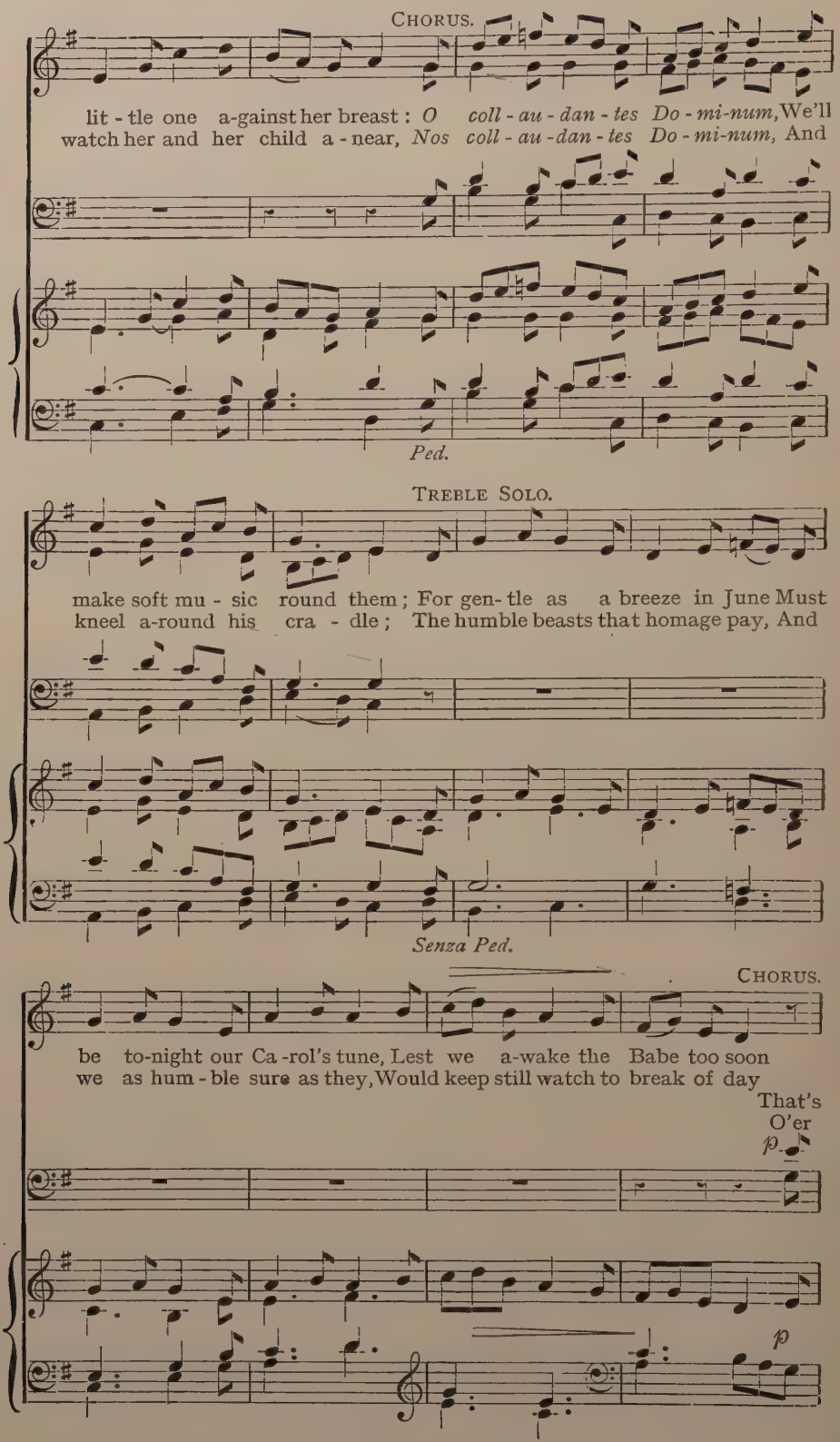
Music by GEOFFREY SHAW.

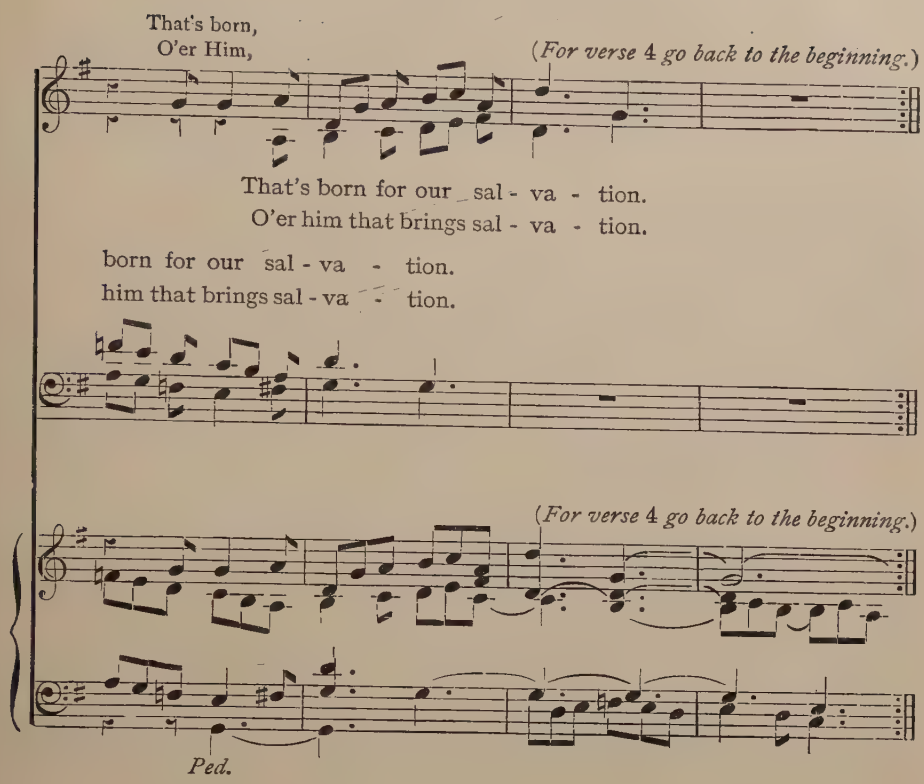
Words by SELWYN IMAGE.

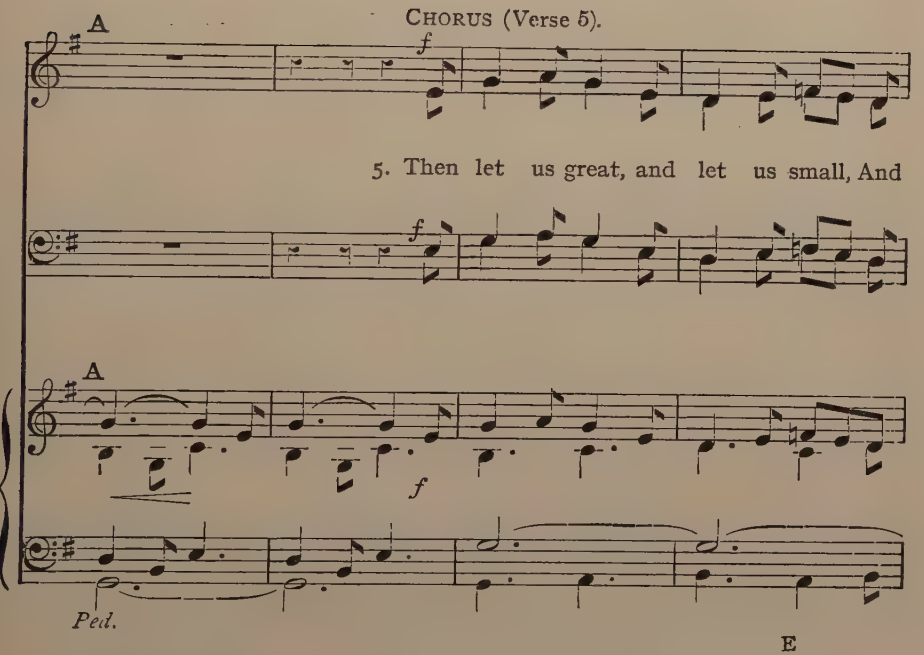

TENOR SOLO (Verses 1 & 4).
mf
1 The snow lies thick up - on the earth To -
4 But see, but see! the Child's a - wake! His
Andante con moto.
ORGAN.
mf
Senza Ped.
CHORUS.
f
- night, when God is come to birth: O coll - au-dan - tes Do - mi-num, Let's
pret-ty hands stretch out to take, O coll - au- de - mus Do - mi-num, The
f
f
Ped.
TENOR SOLO.
mf
run to give him greet-ing. His lodg-ing but a sta - ble, see! Where
sim - ple gifts we bring Him: Yea, he for- gets for ve - ry love The
mf
Senza Ped.

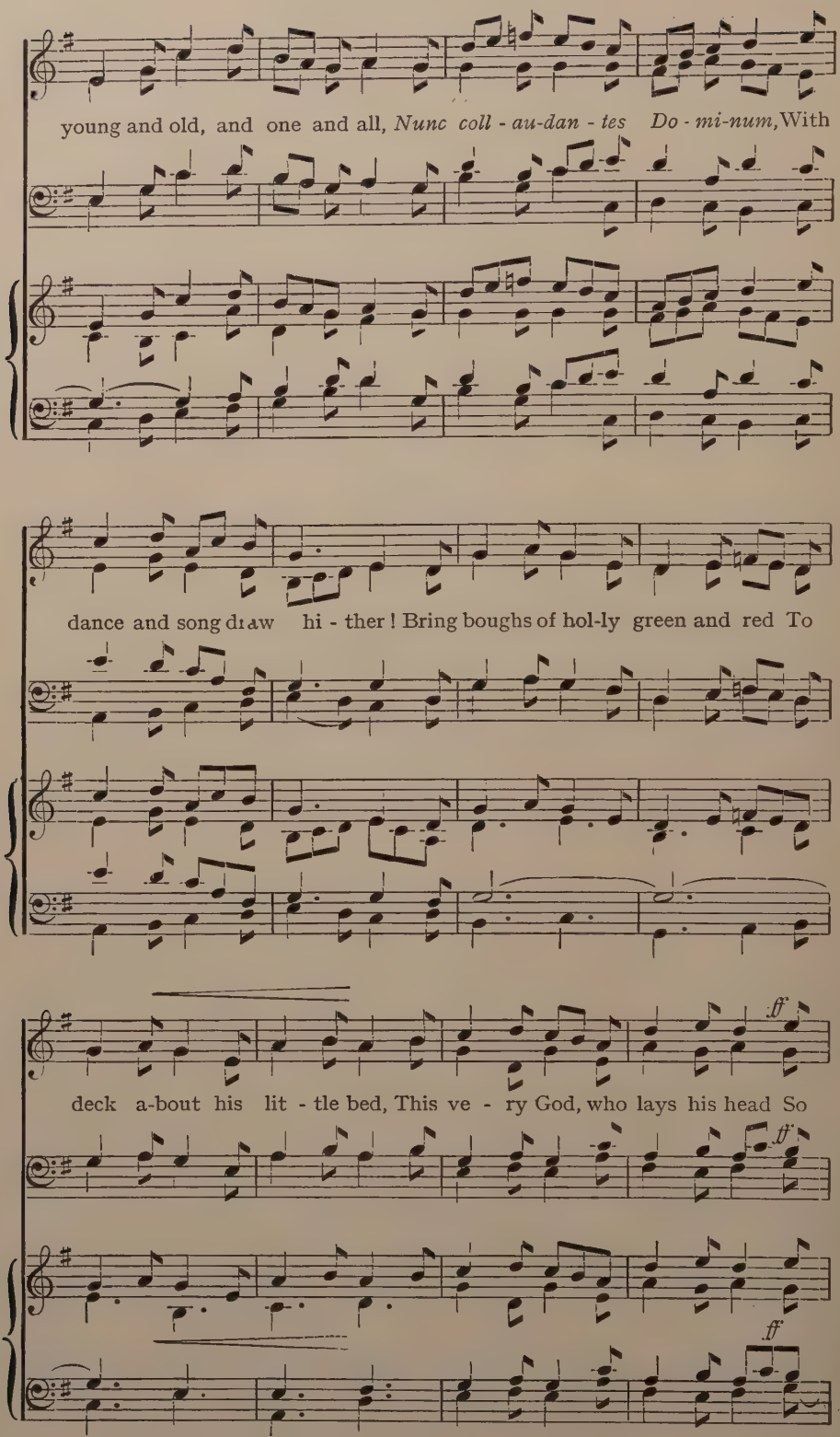

Chorus.
f
ox and ass his cour-tiers be, The Migh - ty Lord in pov - er - ty Laid
glo - ry of his home a- bove, Nor cares but on - ly this to prove, He's
f
f
Ped.
(For verse 5 begin at letter A.)
low for our sal - va - tion!
come for our sal - va - tion!
low,..... Laid low for our sal - va - tion!
come,..... He's come for our sal - va - tion!
(For verse 5 begin at letter A.)

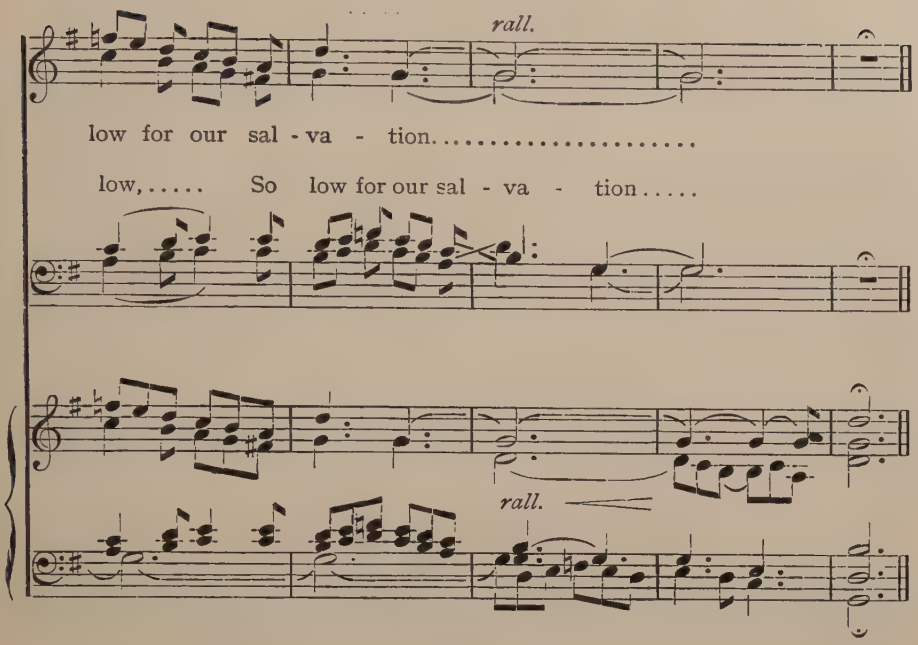

Treble Solo (Verses 2 & 3).
2 I hear sweet Ma - ry sing to rest The
3 Good Jo - seph, may we en - ter here To
Senza Ped.


Chorus.
lit - tle one a-gainst her breast : O coll - au - dan - tes Do - mi-num, We'll
watch her and her child a - near, Nos coll - au - dan - tes Do - mi-num, And
Ped.
Treble Solo.
make soft mu - sic round them ; For gen- tle as a breeze in June Must
kneel a-round his cra - dle ; The humble beasts that homage pay, And
Senza Ped.
Chorus.
be to-night our Ca -rol's tune, Lest we a-wake the Babe too soon
we as hum - ble sure as they, Would keep still watch to break of day
That's
O'er
p
p


That's born,
O'er Him,
(For verse 4 go back to the beginning.)
That's born for our sal - va - tion.
O'er him that brings sal - va - tion.
born for our sal - va - tion.
him that brings sal - va - tion.
(For verse 4 go back to the beginning.)
Ped.


A
CHORUS (Verse 5).
f
5. Then let us great, and let us small, And
f
A
f
Ped.


young and old, and one and all, *Nunc coll - au-dan - tes Do - mi-num,* With
dance and song draw hi - ther! Bring boughs of hol-ly green and red To
ff
deck a-bout his lit - tle bed, This ve - ry God, who lays his head So
ff
ff



THE snow lies thick upon the earth
To-night, when God is come to birth:
O collaudantes Dominum,
Let's run to give him greeting.
His lodging but a stable, see!
Where ox and ass his courtiers be,
The Mighty Lord in poverty
Laid low for our salvation!

2 I hear sweet Mary sing to rest
The little one against her breast:
O collaudantes Dominum,
We'll make soft music round them;
For gentle as a breeze in June
Must be to-night our Carol's tune,
Lest we awake the Babe too soon
That's born for our salvation.

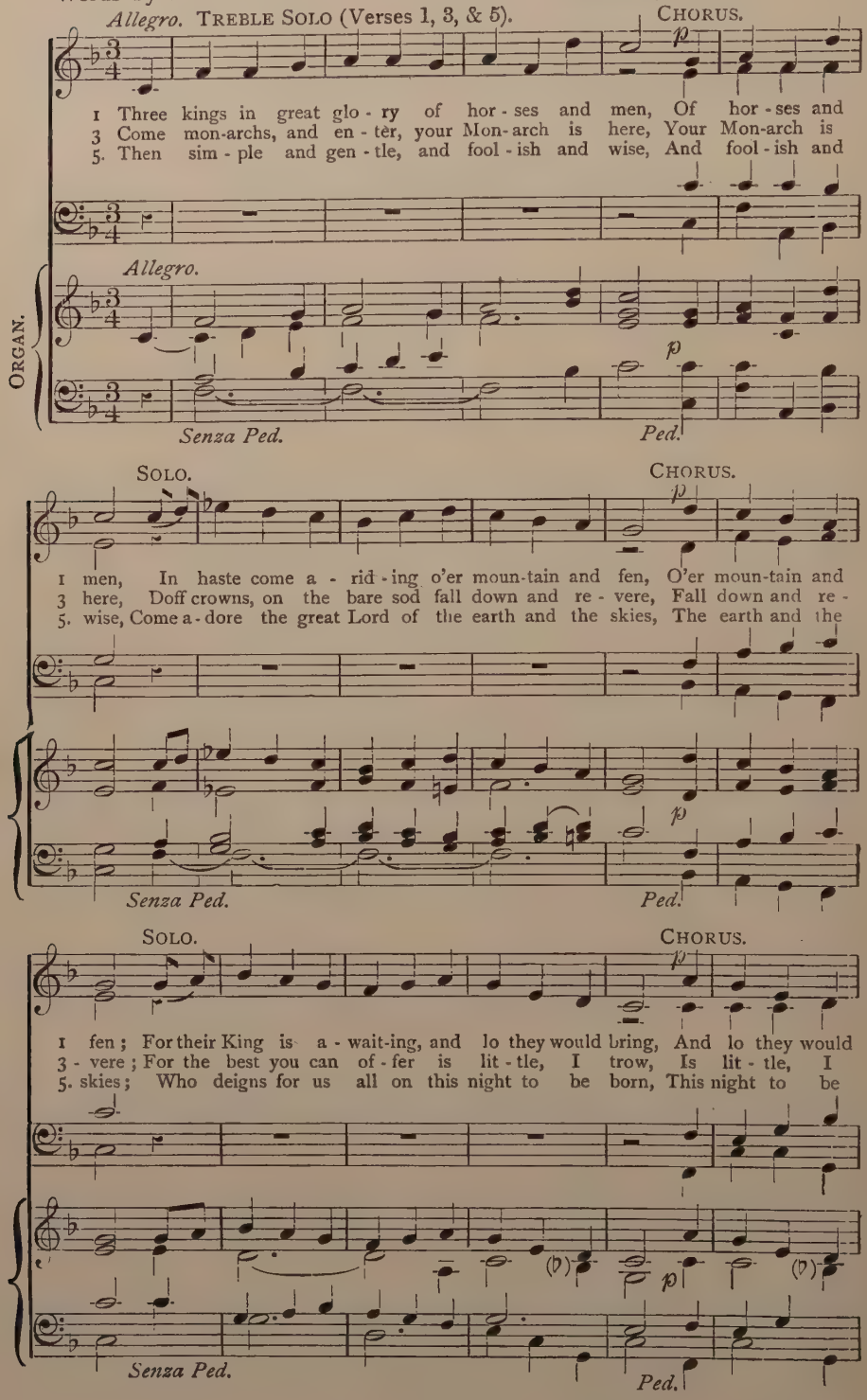
3 Good Joseph, may we enter here
To watch her and her child a-near.
Nos collaudantes Dominum,
And kneel around his cradle;
The humble beasts that homage pay,
And we as humble sure as they,
Would keep still watch to break of day
O'er him that brings salvation.

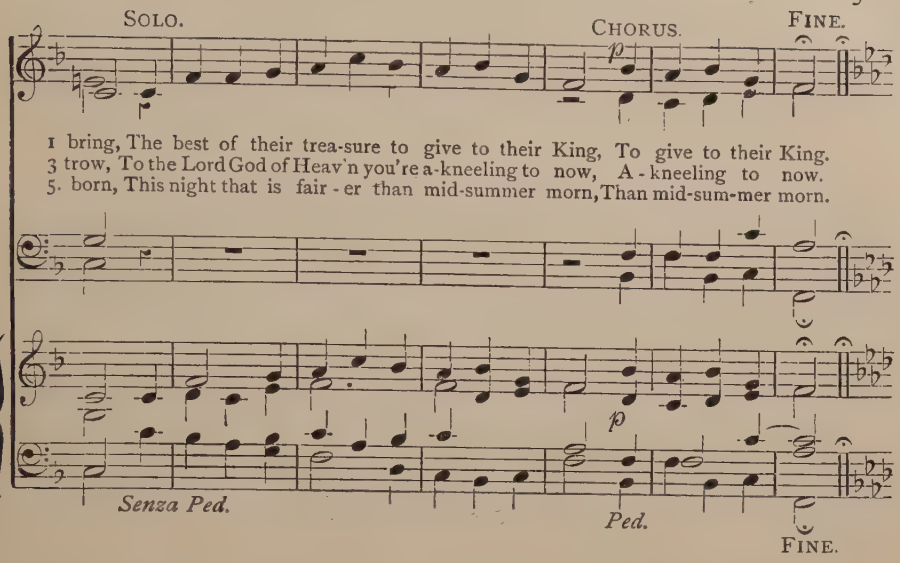
4 But see, but see! the Child's awake!
His pretty hands stretch out to take,
O collaudemus Dominum,
The simple gifts we bring Him:
Yea, he forgets for very love
The glory of his home above,
Nor cares but only this to prove,
He's come for our salvation.

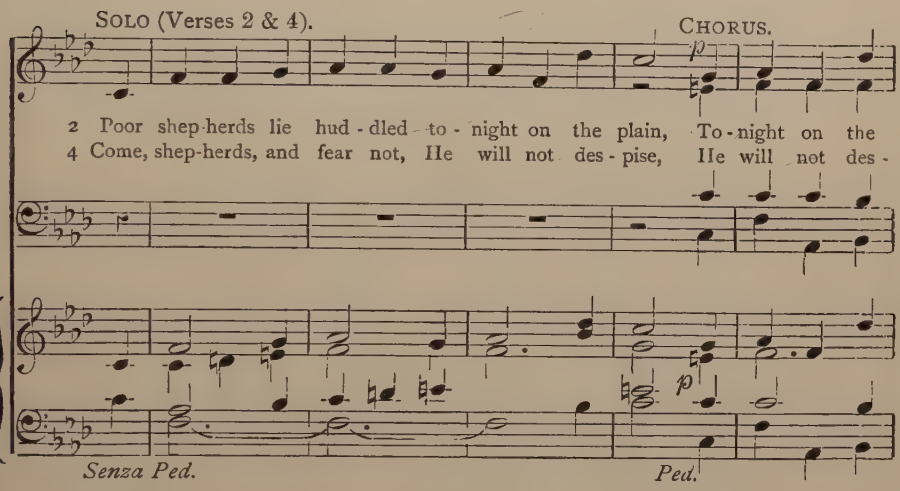
5. Then let us great, and let us small,
And young and old, and one and all,
Nunc collaudantes Dominum,
With dance and song draw hither!
Bring boughs of holly green and red
To deck about his little bed,
This very God, who lays his head
So low for our salvation.

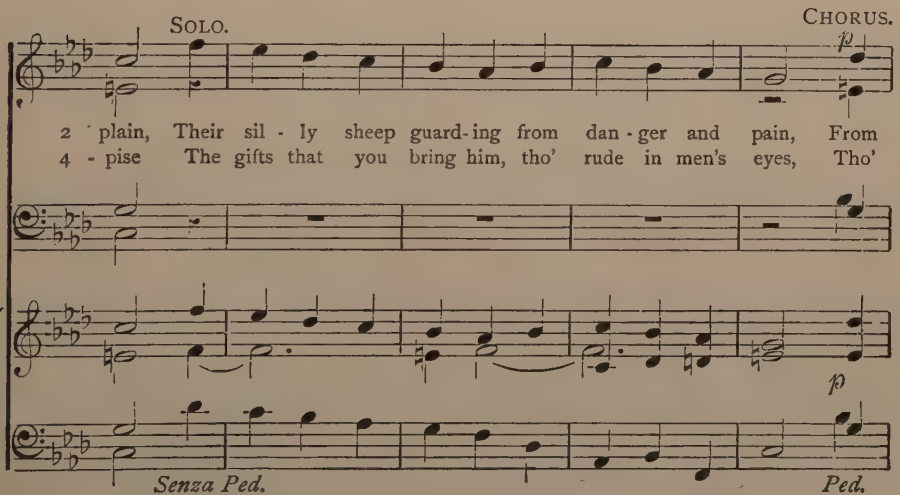
28 Three Kings in Great Glory

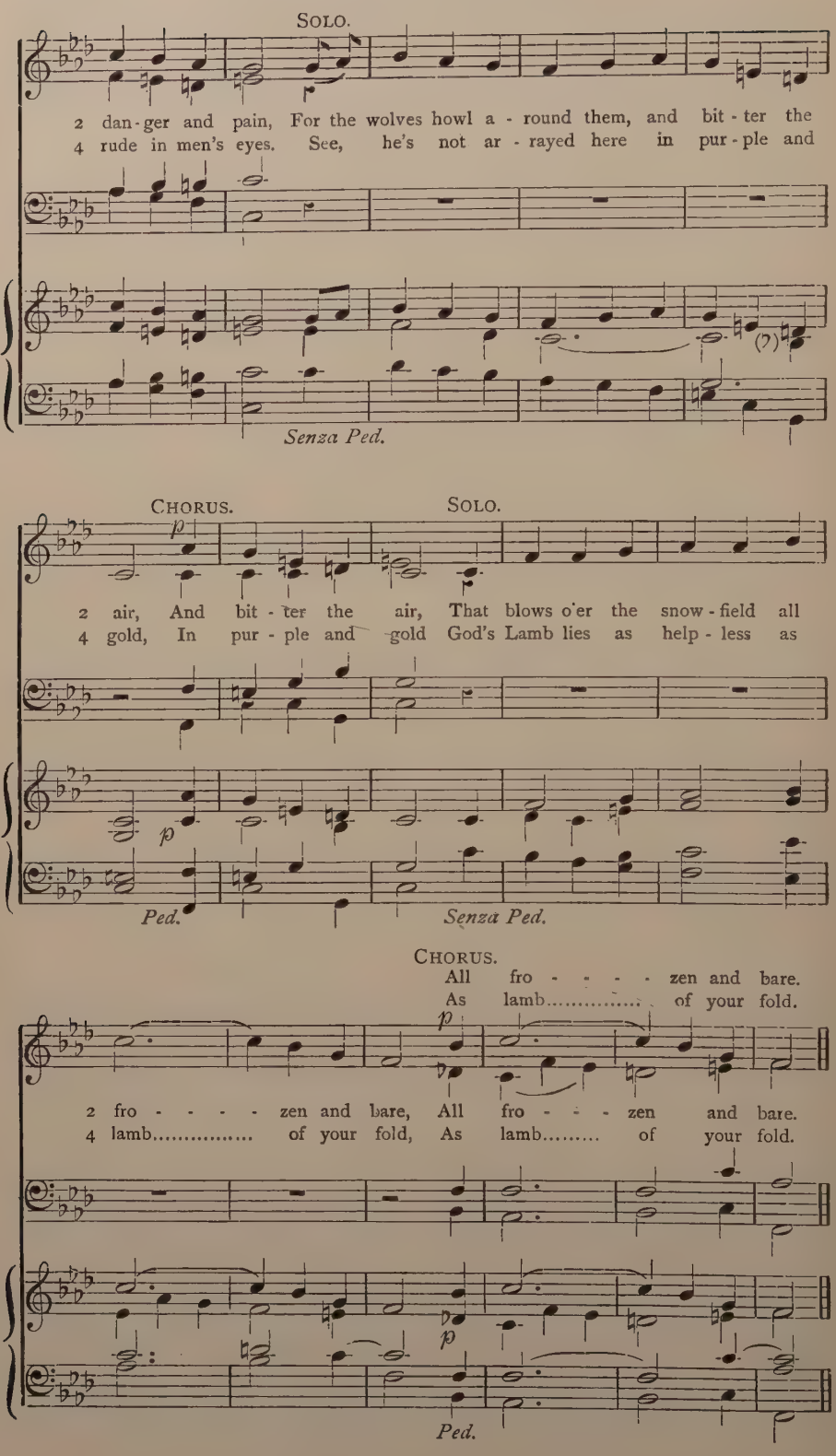
Words by SELWYN IMAGE. Music by MARTIN SHAW.


Allegro. TREBLE SOLO (Verses 1, 3, & 5).
CHORUS.
1 Three kings in great glo - ry of hor - ses and men, Of hor - ses and
3 Come mon-archs, and en - ter, your Mon-arch is here, Your Mon-arch is
5. Then sim - ple and gen - tle, and fool - ish and wise, And fool - ish and
Allegro.
ORGAN.
Senza Ped.
Ped.
SOLO.
CHORUS.
1 men, In haste come a - rid - ing o'er moun-tain and fen, O'er moun-tain and
3 here, Doff crowns, on the bare sod fall down and re - vere, Fall down and re -
5. wise, Come a - dore the great Lord of the earth and the skies, The earth and the
Senza Ped.
Ped.
SOLO.
CHORUS.
1 fen; For their King is a - wait-ing, and lo they would bring, And lo they would
3 - vere; For the best you can of - fer is lit - tle, I trow, Is lit - tle, I
5. skies; Who deigns for us all on this night to be born, This night to be
Senza Ped.
Ped.


SOLO.
CHORUS.
FINE.
1 bring, The best of their trea-sure to give to their King, To give to their King.
3 trow, To the Lord God of Heav'n you're a-kneeling to now, A-kneeling to now.
5. born, This night that is fair-er than mid-summer morn, Than mid-sum-mer morn.
Senza Ped.
Ped.
FINE.


SOLO (Verses 2 & 4).
CHORUS.
2 Poor shep-herds lie hud-dled to-night on the plain, To-night on the
4 Come, shep-herds, and fear not, He will not des-pise, He will not des-
Senza Ped.
Ped.


SOLO.
CHORUS.
2 plain, Their sil-ly sheep guard-ing from dan-ger and pain, From
4 -pise The gifts that you bring him, tho' rude in men's eyes, Tho'
Senza Ped.
Ped.


Solo.
2 dan-ger and pain, For the wolves howl a-round them, and bit-ter the
4 rude in men's eyes. See, he's not ar-rayed here in pur-ple and
Senza Ped.
Chorus.
Solo.
2 air, And bit-ter the air, That blows o'er the snow-field all
4 gold, In pur-ple and gold God's Lamb lies as help-less as
Ped.
Senza Ped.
Chorus.
All fro - - - - zen and bare.
As lamb..... of your fold.
2 fro - - - - zen and bare, All fro - - - zen and bare.
4 lamb..... of your fold, As lamb..... of your fold.
Ped.

THREE Kings in great glory of horses and men,
Of horses and men,
In haste come a-riding o'er mountain and fen,
O'er mountain and fen;
For their King is a-waiting, and lo they would bring,
And lo they would bring,
The best of their treasure to give to their King,
To give to their King.

2 Poor shepherds lie huddled to-night on the plain,
To-night on the plain,
Their silly sheep guarding from danger and pain,
From danger and pain;
For the wolves howl around them, and bitter the air,
And bitter the air,
That blows o'er the snow-field all frozen and bare,
All frozen and bare.

3 Come monarchs, and enter, your Monarch is here,
Your Monarch is here,
Doff crowns, on the bare sod fall down and revere,
Fall down and revere;
For the best you can offer is little, I trow,
Is little, I trow,
To the Lord God of Heaven you're a-kneeling to now,
A-kneeling to now.

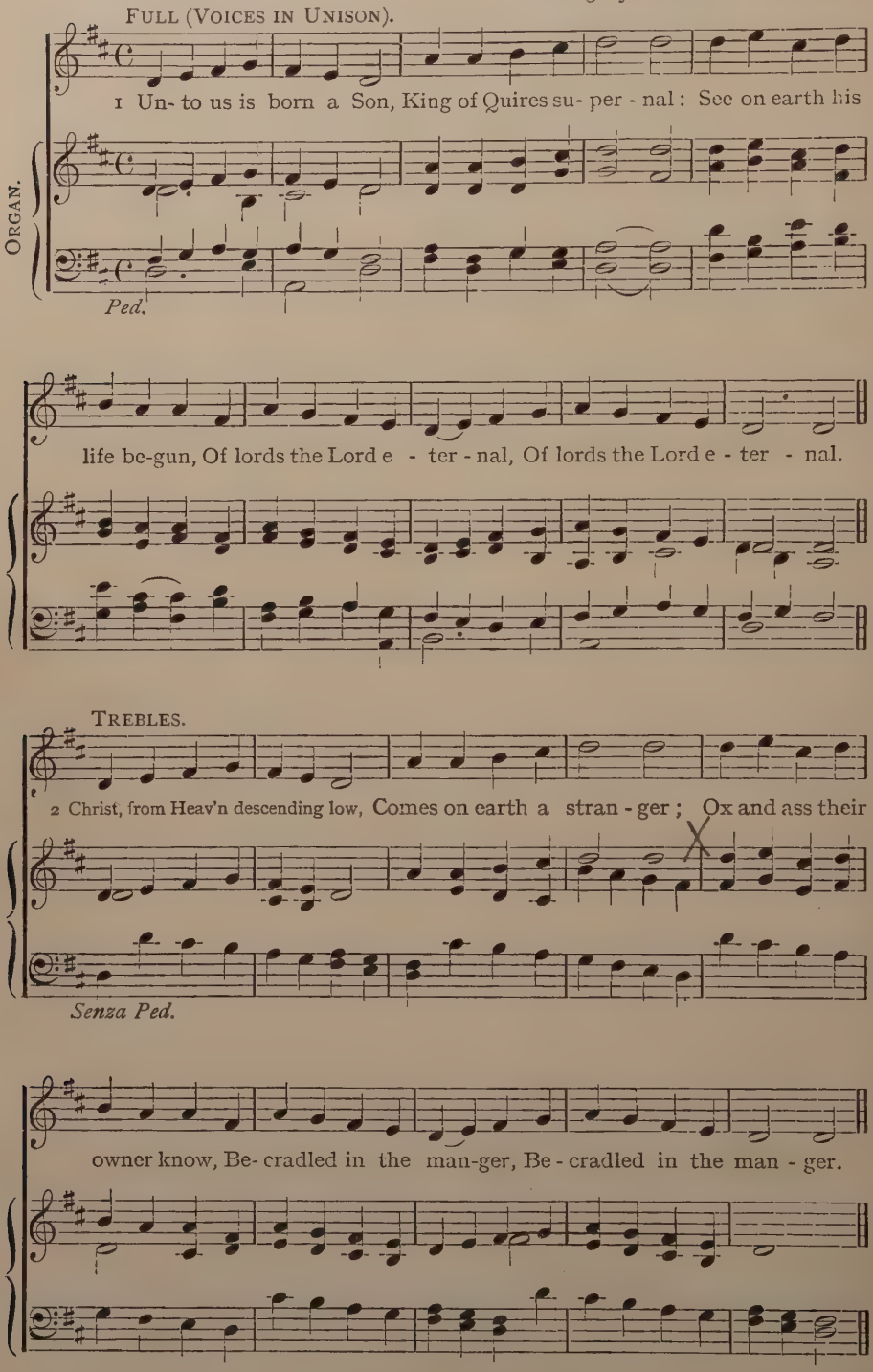
4 Come, shepherds, and fear not, he will not despise,
He will not despise
The gifts that you bring him, though rude in men's eyes,
Though rude in men's eyes.
See, he's not arrayed here in purple and gold,
In purple and gold,
God's Lamb lies as helpless as lamb of your fold,
As lamb of your fold.

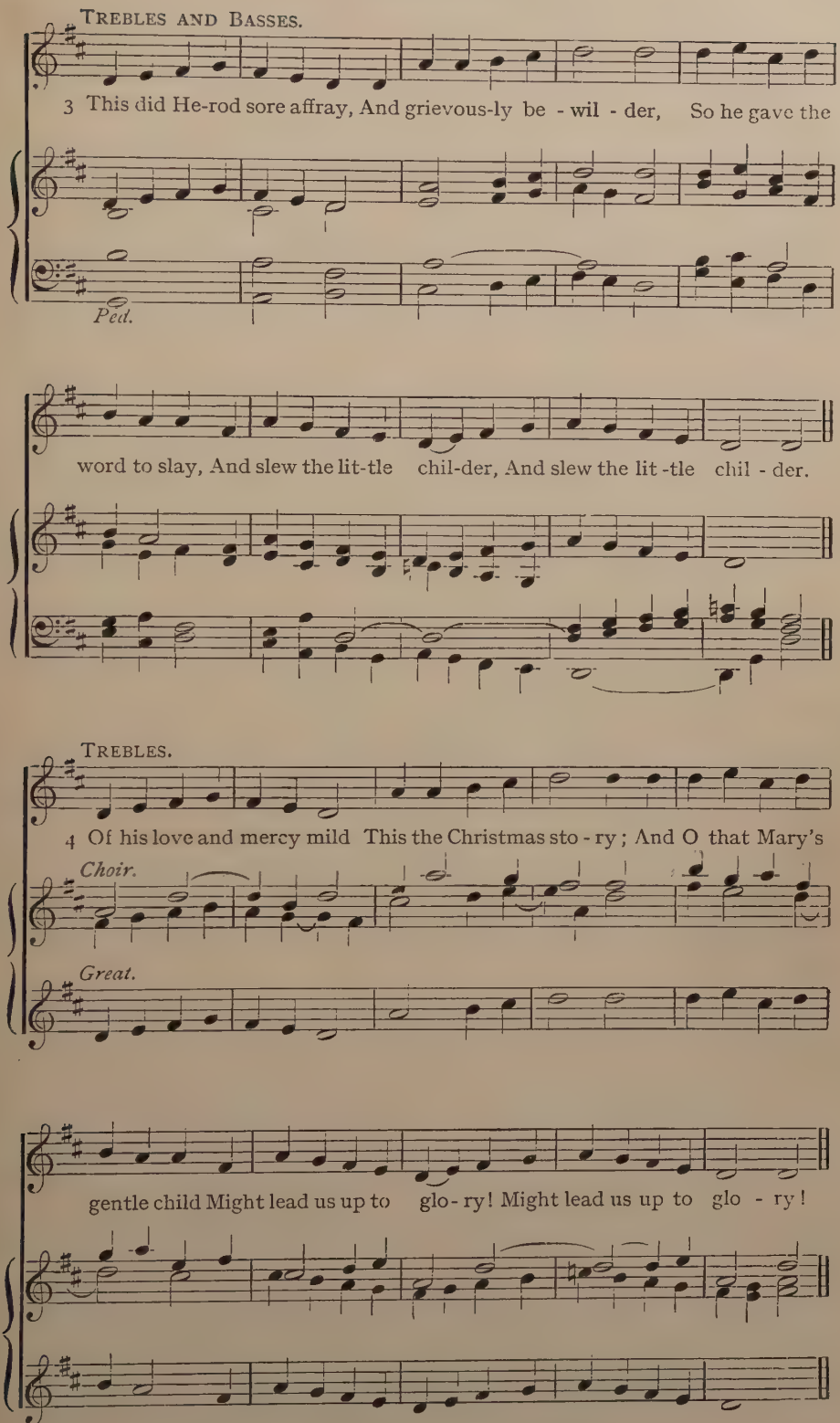
5 Then simple and gentle, and foolish and wise,
And foolish and wise,
Come adore the great Lord of the earth and the skies,
The earth and the skies,
Who deigns for us all on this night to be born,
This night to be born,
This night that is fairer than midsummer morn,
Than midsummer morn.

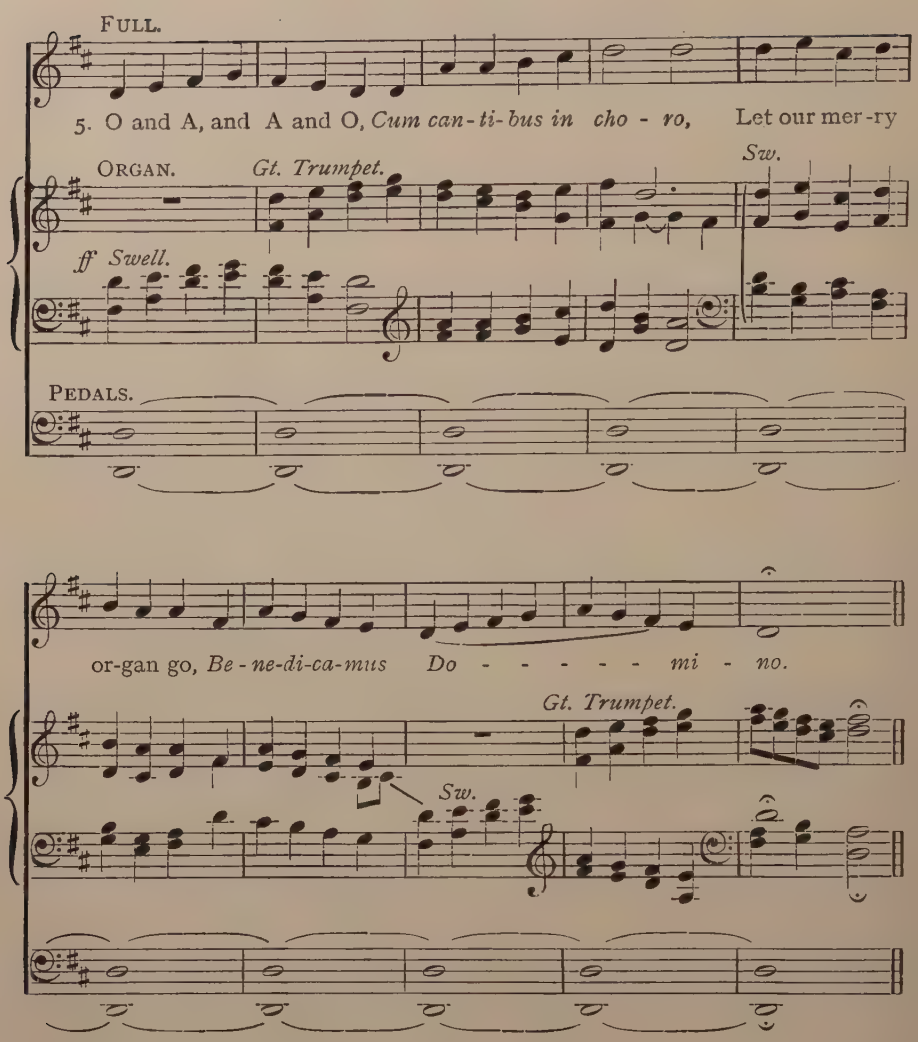
29 Unto us is Born a Son

Words translated from the Latin by
THE REV. G. R. WOODWARD.

Tune from *Piæ Cantiones*, 1582.
Setting by GEOFFREY SHAW.


FULL (VOICES IN UNISON).
1 Un- to us is born a Son, King of Quires su- per - nal: See on earth his
ORGAN.
Ped.
life be-gun, Of lords the Lord e - ter - nal, Of lords the Lord e - ter - nal.
TREBLES.
2 Christ, from Heav'n descending low, Comes on earth a stran - ger; Ox and ass their
Senza Ped.
owner know, Be- cradled in the man-ger, Be - cradled in the man - ger.


TREBLES AND BASSES.
3 This did He-rod sore affray, And grievous-ly be - wil - der, So he gave the
Ped.
word to slay, And slew the lit-tle chil-der, And slew the lit-tle chil - der.
TREBLES.
4 Of his love and mercy mild This the Christmas sto - ry; And O that Mary's
Choir.
Great.
gentle child Might lead us up to glo - ry! Might lead us up to glo - ry!


FULL.
5. O and A, and A and O, *Cum can-ti-bus in cho - ro,* Let our mer-ry
ORGAN.
Gt. Trumpet.
Sw.
ff Swell.
PEDALS.
or-gan go, *Be-ne-di-ca-mus Do - - - - - mi - no.*
Gt. Trumpet.
Sw.

UNTO us is born a Son,
King of Quires supernal:
See on earth his life begun,
Of lords the Lord eternal.

2 Christ, from Heav'n descending low,
Comes on earth a stranger;
Ox and ass their owner know,
Becradled in the manger.

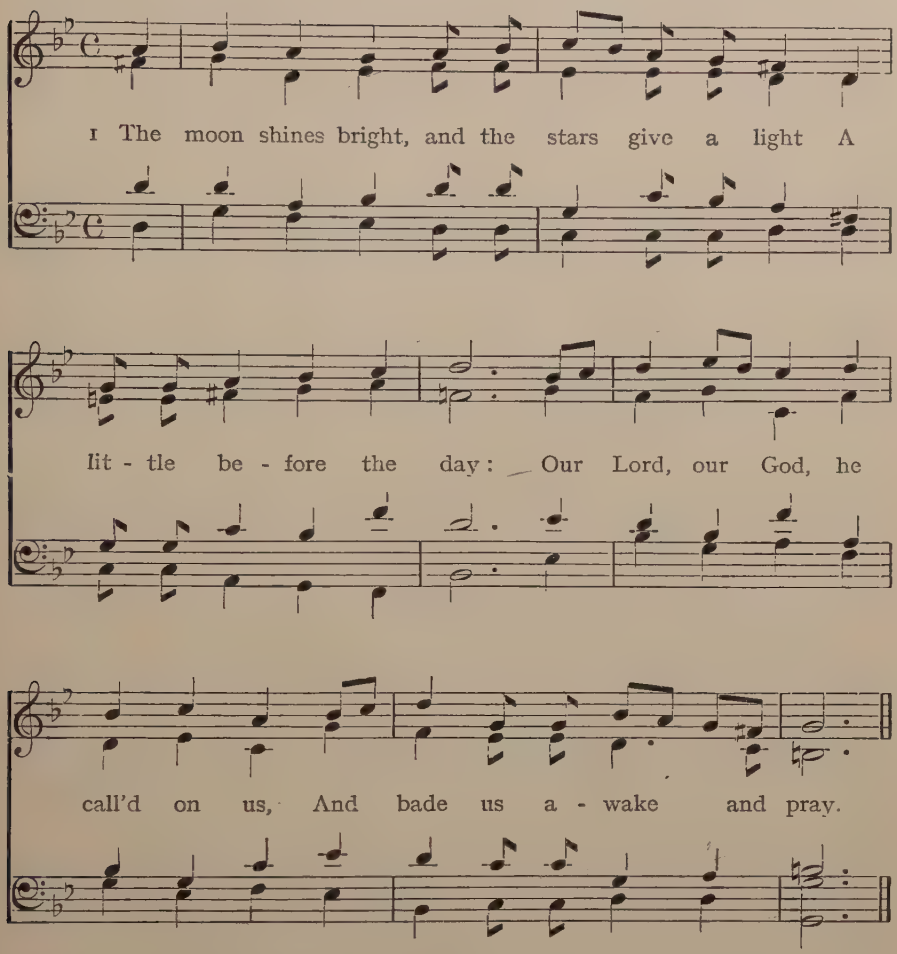
3 This did Herod sore affray,
And grievously bewilder,
So he gave the word to slay,
And slew the little childer.

4 Of his love and mercy mild
This the Christmas story;
And O that Mary's gentle child
Might lead us up to glory!

5. O and A, and A and O,
Cum cantibus in choro,
Let our merry organ go,
Benedicamus Domino.

30 The Waits' Song

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.


1 The moon shines bright, and the stars give a light A
lit - tle be - fore the day: Our Lord, our God, he
call'd on us, And bade us a - wake and pray.

THE moon shines bright, and the stars give a light
A little before the day:
Our Lord, our God, he called on us,
And bade us awake and pray.

2 Awake, awake, good people all;
Awake, and you shall hear,
Our Lord, our God, died on the Cross
For us he loved so dear.

3 O fair, O fair Jerusalem,
When shall I come to thee?
When shall my sorrows have an end,
The joy that I may see.

4 The fields were green as green could be,
When from his glorious seat
Our Lord, our God, he watered us,
With his heavenly dew so sweet.

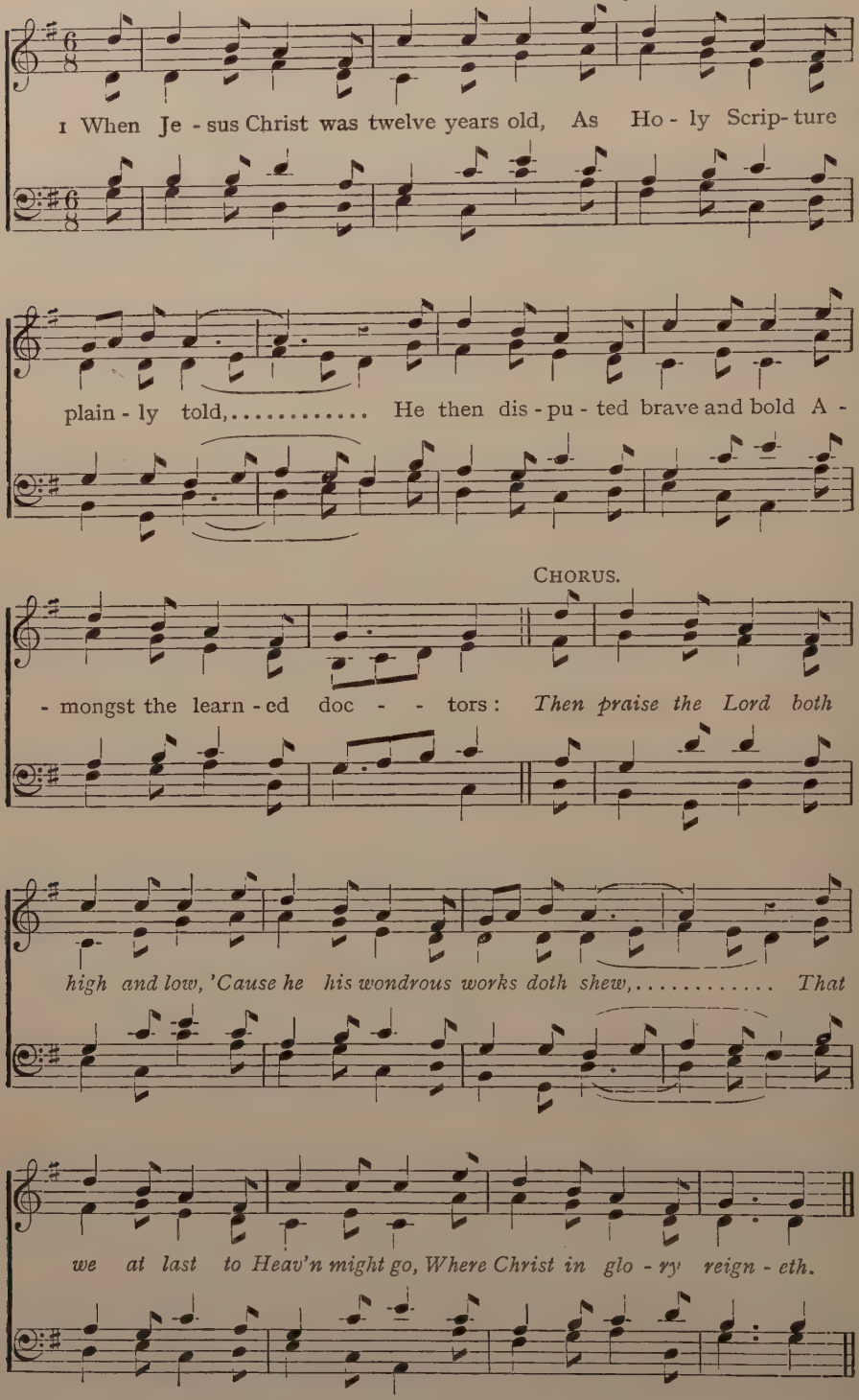
5 And for the saving of our souls
Christ died upon the Cross;
We ne'er shall do for Jesus Christ
As he hath done for us.

6. My song is done, I must be gone,
I can stay no longer here;
God bless you all, both great and small,
And send you a joyful new year!

31 When Jesus Christ was Twelve Years Old.

Words Traditional.

Tune Traditional.
Setting by GEOFFREY SHAW.


1 When Je - sus Christ was twelve years old, As Ho - ly Scrip - ture
plain - ly told,..... He then dis - pu - ted brave and bold A -
CHORUS.
- mongst the learn - ed doc - - tors: Then praise the Lord both
high and low, 'Cause he his wondrous works doth shew,..... That
we at last to Heav'n might go, Where Christ in glo - ry reign - eth.

WHEN Jesus Christ was twelve years old,
As Holy Scripture plainly told,
He then disputed brave and bold
Amongst the learnèd doctors:

Then praise thē Lord both high and low,
'Cause he his wondrous works doth shew,
That we at last to Heaven might go,
Where Christ in glory reigneth.

2 Then, first of all, by power divine,
He turnèd water into wine,
When at the marriage he did dine,
Which made all people wonder:

3 Likewise he healed the lepers ten,
Whose bodies were full filthy then;
And there returnèd back but one
Him humble thanks to render:

4 More of his heavenly might to shew,
Himself upon the sea did go;
And thērē was none that e'er did so,
But only Christ our Saviour:

5 When they bereaved his life so good,
The moon was turnèd into blood;
The earth and temple shaking stood,
And graves full wide did open:

6 Then some of them that stood thereby
With voices loud began to cry:
This was the Son of God truly,
Without any fear or doubting:

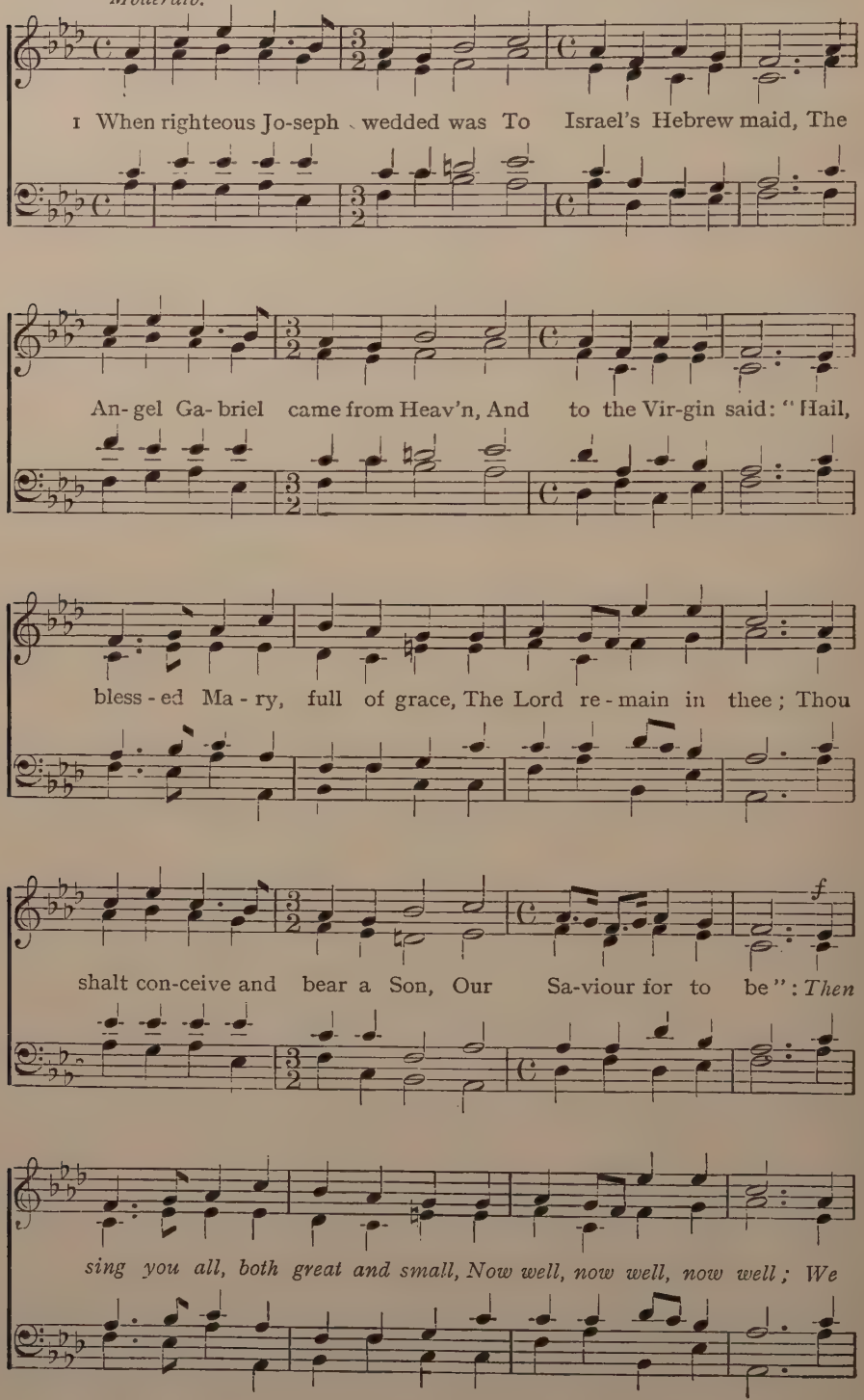
7 For, as he said, it came so plain,
That in three days he rose again;
Although he suffered bitter pain,
Both heaven and earth he conquered:

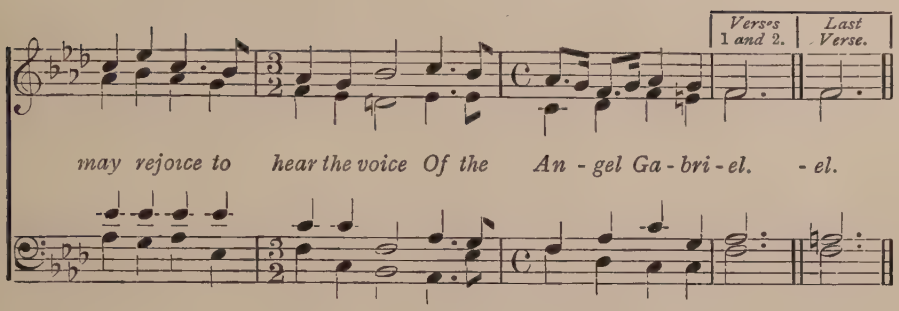
8. Then afterwards ascended he
To Heaven in glorious majesty;
With him God grant us all to be
In Heaven with him rejoicing:

32 When Righteous Joseph

Words Traditional. Tune Traditional.

Moderato.


1 When righteous Jo-seph wedded was To Israel's Hebrew maid, The
An-gel Ga-briel came from Heav'n, And to the Vir-gin said: "Hail,
bless-ed Ma-ry, full of grace, The Lord re-main in thee; Thou
f
shalt con-ceive and bear a Son, Our Sa-viour for to be": Then
sing you all, both great and small, Now well, now well, now well; We



WHEN righteous Joseph wedded was
To Israel's Hebrew maid,
The Angel Gabriel came from Heaven,
And to the Virgin said:
"Hail, blessed Mary, full of grace,
The Lord remain in thee;
Thou shalt conceive and bear a Son,
Our Saviour for to be":

Then sing you all, both great and small,
Now well, now well, now well;
We may rejoice to hear the voice
Of the Angel Gabriel.

2 Thus Mary and her husband kind
Together did remain,
Until the time of Jesus' birth,
As Scriptures doth make plain.
As mother, wife, and virtuous maid,
Our Saviour sweet conceived;
And in due time to bring us him,
Of whom we were bereaved:

Then sing you all, both great and small,
Now well, now well, now well;
We may rejoice to hear the voice
Of the Angel Gabriel.

3. Sing praises all, both young and old,
To him that wrought such things;
And all without the means of man,
Sent us the King of kings,
Who is of such a spirit blest,
That with his might did quell
The world, the flesh, and by his death
Did conquer death and hell:

Then sing you all, both great and small,
Now well, now well, now well;
We may rejoice to hear the voice
Of the Angel Gabriel.

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